

## ve of Budget jobless total near to 1,400,000

p in unemployment for the sixth  
ve month brought the total number  
ut of work to nearly 1,400,000 in March.  
cts of today's Budget are almost certain  
the problem worse, as well as to reduce  
value of unemployment benefit.

## Sixth successive monthly rise

Atkinson  
ment went up for  
successive month in  
ce seasonal factors  
into account. The  
adults out of work  
y 30,000 in Great  
d rises of 39,000 in  
d 45,000 last month.  
the underlying job-  
to 1,349,500, or 5.7  
of the work force,  
to official figures  
yesterday.  
ment is expected to  
throughout this year.  
overment estimates  
a year predicted an  
total of 1.8 million  
next January.  
these predictions  
before the most re-  
ven more gloomy  
economic forecasts.  
do not take account  
tax and spending  
to be announced in  
to get and these  
to push up un-  
because of their  
effect on output.  
ment has stressed  
don between grow-  
ues and high pay  
sters have said that  
lead inevitably to  
employment.  
age has clearly not  
wage bargainers for  
ns figures show pay-  
ng at just under 20  
year in the present

vernment's strategy  
of "inflation" and  
high unemployment  
a means to accept  
the number  
scancies in recent  
another indicator of  
sed state of the  
ket. Vacancies not  
employment, figures  
ter seasonal adjust-  
2,700 in March.  
count for only about  
total vacancies but  
t by officials to pre-  
nd guide to overall

changes in job vacancies, which  
have been falling fairly steadily  
since last summer.  
Despite the smaller jump in  
the unemployment total in  
March, the rise was still much  
larger than those in the later  
months of last year.

There seems to have been  
a sharp deterioration in the  
labour market at the turn of  
the year. Since then the under-  
lying total of adults out of  
work in Great Britain has  
risen by 114,000 and the number  
of job vacancies has  
dropped over the same period  
by about 20 per cent.

The trade figures—that is  
the seasonal adjustment—  
show that the total number  
registered as unemployed last  
month was 1,411,415 in Britain,  
a fall of 10,573, and 1,477,666  
in the United Kingdom as a  
whole, 11,257 fewer than in  
February.

These figures include unem-  
ployed school leavers. The  
Government's special unemploy-  
ment measures are now keep-  
ing an estimated 205,000 of  
these off the register and to be  
helping a total of 405,000 people.

The problems of the long-  
term unemployed are becom-  
ing more severe. There are  
growing numbers of workers  
who have been without a job  
for a year or more. Their  
financial position is likely to  
be worsened by today's Budget  
because a cut in the real value  
of unemployment benefit is  
almost certain to be announced  
as part of the Government's  
public spending reductions.

It is noted that people will not  
have their benefits increased  
in line with inflation when  
the November uprating is  
announced.

The Prime Minister has sup-  
ported a campaign against  
work shyness. However, unem-  
ployment is bound to rise what-  
ever happens to the level of  
benefit.

## Britons vote to send team to Olympics

By John Hennessey

The British Olympic Association (BOA) decided yesterday by a big majority to send a team to the Olympic Games in Moscow in July. Only one sport, hockey, positively came out in opposition, but four others—equestrianism, fencing, swimming, and yachting—asked for the decision to be deferred.

Fifteen sports voted for immediate acceptance of the invitation to Moscow together with three other members of the committee. The identity of these three was not revealed, but they are almost certain to be Lord Exeter and Lord Luke, who are members of the International Olympic Committee, and Mr Charles Palmer, vice chairman of the BOA and a dedicated opponent of political interference in sport.

The five winter sports were not represented nor was the Football Association, who are not involved in the Olympic Games.

The BOA stated that there will be "no pressure to participate on individual sportsmen and sportswomen who prefer not to be considered for the team".

The organisers had been instrumental in forcing a change of mind on the Amateur Rowing Association. The hockey players, particularly, when they have had the opportunity to digest what they regard as a bizarre statement issued yesterday by the men's Great Britain Hockey Board.

Flying in the face of reality, it is inviting the International Hockey Federation to hold a hockey Olympic Games "at a more appropriate venue".

If there were any attempt to hold alternative games the BOA would not be interested, Sir Denis Follows, the chairman, said.

Sir Denis refuted the suggestion, contained in a question in Parliament, that he had said he "knew more about the interests of this country than Members of Parliament". He had never said this.

Our Political Editor writes: The Government last night immediately issued a statement which "seriously regrets" the BOA decision, but appealed to individual athletes not to abide by it.

The statement noted that neither the governing bodies of sport nor the individual athletes were bound by the BOA decision.

Our Dublin Correspondent writes: Almost 60 per cent of adults in the Republic of Ireland are in favour of their country competing in the Moscow games, according to a research survey published in Dublin yesterday.

The survey, carried out in early February by Research Surveys of Ireland, shows that 32 per cent said a team should not go and 9 per cent said they did not know.



Archbishop Runcie blessing the congregation at his enthronement in Canterbury Cathedral

## Archbishop Runcie enthroned

From Clifford Longley  
Canterbury

Archbishop Robert Runcie marked his enthronement in Canterbury Cathedral yesterday with a statement of his priorities that suggests a new style of church leadership. Addressing the congregation of 2,000, the new Archbishop offered to build a warm mutual understanding between Christians and non-Christians, church-goers and non-church-goers.

His sermon was indirectly critical of the pomp and splendour of the enthronement service itself when he compared it with a service for an African archbishop that he is to attend later this year.

"It may be that the simple service to which I shall go in Africa will prove more eloquent about the uncluttered way in

which the Church should live now, about the unpretentious character of real Christian authority," he said.

He longed as Archbishop to speak with men and women outside the Christian Church. He would like to say to them: "You can teach us so much if together we could look for the secret of the maze-like muddle in which the world finds itself. Some of those who thought they were close to the heart of the maze would find that they would have to return to the beginning; those who thought they were at the start could be nearer its heart."

The image of the church he put forward was of an unpretentious institution with low frontiers, not claiming to offer packaged truths, but convinced that it had all the answers. He recalled that the cost of Christian leadership could be high, expressing his shock at the murder of Archbishop Oscar Romero of San Salvador.

Prayers for the murdered Archbishop Runcie gave a sense of the service itself, one particularly sombre part of the international and ecumenical theme, which ran through-

out it. The choice of prayers and hymns reflected Archbishop Runcie's particular pre-ference: out of respect for the Orthodox churchmen present, the controversial "filioque" clause ("and the Son") was omitted from the creed; and one of the hymns sung was in praise of the Virgin Mary.

Cardinal Hume read the epistle, the first Roman Catholic cardinal to take part in such an enthronement since the Reformation, and when the Archbishop time came for Archbishop Runcie to greet the assembled church dignitaries he gave a special warm embrace to the cardinal.

This service was also a visible manifestation of the place of the Church of England as the established national church, with Mrs Margaret Thatcher leading a procession of several Cabinet ministers, the Prince of Wales and Princess Margaret symbolising the Church's link with the Crown, and a large gathering of dignitaries representing local government, the armed services, the law, and other sectors of the realm.

Leading article, page 17  
Text of sermon, page 19

## Salvador Archbishop assassinated by gunmen at altar

San Salvador, March 25.—Machine gun fire and at least 10 explosions were heard in the empty streets of the capital today and power on parts of the city was cut hours after Mgr Oscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador and an outspoken defender of human rights, was shot to death while holding a funeral mass last night.

A powerful bomb went off at Siman stores, owned by rich, right-wing families, and unconfirmed reports spoke of explosions at the National Palace.

The violence was apparently provoked by the death of Mgr Romero, who was killed by four men who calmly walked up to him as he raised the communion host during the mass, and shot him at short range.

The military-civilian junta, which the Archbishop had criticised as repressive, banned the broadcasting of details of the assassination of the popular church leader, nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. But it issued a statement "unreservedly condemning" the killing and decreed three days of national mourning.

The assassination of his Excellency the Archbishop constitutes the most vile of crimes the junta," a statement said. It urged the people of Salvador to "orient this sorrow that behoves us to build the just, free and peaceful country he always fought for."

Señor Jorge Pinto, a newspaper publisher, said that Mgr Romero was saying the mass for the publisher's mother, when the four middle-aged men in civilian clothes edged up to the altar of the tiny hospital chapel in north-western San Salvador and fired. The Pinto family had placed newspaper advertisements saying that the Archbishop would be conducting the mass.

There were several shots and Monsignor fell dead at that moment, Señor Pinto said. "They took him to the Salvadoran polyclinic but he was dead by the time he arrived there," Señor Esteban Perez Garcia, a

photographer for United Press International, said that the Archbishop had just lifted up the host when "there was an explosion and the Monsignor fell backward, practically frozen".

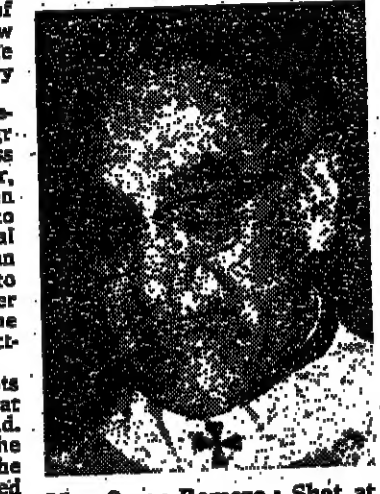
The men fled through a side door and escaped in a red Volkswagen after the shooting which happened in the evening, an officer said. Doctors said later that Mgr Romero, aged 63, was killed by a single 22-calibre bullet that struck him in the heart.

Mgr Romero had said in that both extreme right and left-wing groups were planning his assassination. It is not known which accomplished it.

On Sunday he had demanded that the ruling junta, which is trying to combine liberal reforms with attacks on its leftist opposition, "put an end to repression and said 150 people had died in political violence in the previous week alone."

In 1978, a group of British MPs and peers and American congressmen nominated him for the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize.

London mass and photograph, page 7  
Leading article, page 17  
Obituary, page 19



Mgr Oscar Romero: Shot at altar.

## Lawson optimism on EEC paper attacked

By Fred Emery  
Political Editor

On the eve of the grim Budget that Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is expected to deliver today the Government yesterday came under attack for detecting a silver lining to the problem of Britain's £1,100m EEC budget deficit.

Despite Labour charges in the Commons of defeat and cowardice, Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, declined to say why he had kept to himself all weekend an EEC Commission proposal that he had in the previous night's debate treated as a breakthrough.

But outside the House in broadcast interviews he waxed eloquent. He spoke of a "special fund" of EEC money now being possible for projects in Britain. The Government, he insisted, would not leave behind the EEC spending; indeed its intention is that the EEC money should substitute for present Government commitment, and so reduce Govern-

ment spending still further. Instead of cheering this first good news from Brussels in recent memory, the Labour front bench was enraged. The odd anti-EEC Tory also joined in the complaints that the Commons, on Monday, had been denied this up to date EEC document for its debate on the EEC budget.

The Government was unable to explain yesterday why the document had not been presented to MPs. Mr Lawson, it was said in Whitehall, seized the purported key point in Britain's favour immediately he saw how explicit it was on receipt of the document last Friday.

But in addition to being denied the information it was clear that most Labour MPs did not believe Mr Lawson's "gloss" that as he put it on Monday, "the Government has no doubt whatever that the Commission's proposals could, given the political will among member states, form the basis

Continued on page 6, col 1

## er flights nd on o talks

Felton  
porter

s of holiday flights  
lacial airports over  
period depend on  
on Friday between  
550,000 local sub-  
sidiary workers and  
oyers.

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ernment's Association  
sterday sanctioned a  
rike over Easter by  
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structions in obey-  
ing the outcome of  
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talks break down the  
go ahead, as well as  
he union's 600 mem-  
bers. The inspec-  
tional body has  
vised them to vote  
to be balloted.

s were arranged yes-  
terday the union expects  
improvement to the  
ity employers offer  
age 8 per cent, but  
comparability with  
ivate industry.

ion is claiming an  
4 per cent increase.  
as its case has been  
by the 17 per cent  
lity award for coun-  
officers which was  
Monday. Both sides  
iously optimistic last  
Friday's negotiations  
the union to call off  
ial action, which is  
many local councils

## Steel committee of inquiry members expected to be announced today

By Donald Macintyre  
Labour Reporter

An announcement of the names of the three-member committee of inquiry into the steel strike may be made today.

Both sides in the dispute yesterday submitted their approved list of candidates, and it was believed that three of the figures on the list had agreed to take part.

The committee, which will be established under the auspices of the independent Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, is expected to take no more than a fortnight on its deliberations, which will be confined to the difference between the union's claim for a 19 per cent pay and conditions deal and the British Steel Corporation's 14 per cent offer.

Meanwhile, the National Crafts Coordinating Committee of 11 unions in the industry expressed their discontent at the failure of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and the National Union of Blastfurners to call off the strike pending the inquiry, or accept its findings as binding.

The committee, representing nearly 40,000 BSC workers, noted "with regret" that the ISTE and NUB had acted contrary to the understandings given by all the participating unions in the iron and steel co-ordinating committee.

The decision by the NCCO on whether to call members back to work will not be made until next Wednesday.

Steel customers, page 2



## Sogat strike order will halt national press on May 14

By David Felton  
Labour Reporter

No national newspapers will be printed on May 14 as a result of a decision yesterday by the largest printing union, the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (Sogat), to call all its members out on strike.

The union's 205,000 members are being instructed to stay away as part of the TUC's day of action against the Government's social and economic policies. A union spokesman said last night: "It will stop every national newspaper on May 14, with no exception. We are advising our members not to go to work on the evening of May 13, going into the morning of May 14."

It is understood that the

union decided against a full 24-hour stoppage, because this would have meant that no newspapers were available on May 15, to print reports of the TUC's call for action.

Union members, who mainly handle the packaging and distribution of newspapers, will also stop work in provincial newspapers.

A Sogat statement said: "It is firmly the decision of the national executive committee that the trade union movement as a whole should support (to the TUC call) by stopping work on that day. The NEC will therefore be directing all their members to demonstrate their opposition to the anti-working-class policies of this Government by stopping work."

## Small majority of Jaguar vote for strike

A majority of only 86 in a meeting of 2,400 British Leyland Jaguar workers in Coventry voted to strike in protest at BL's plans to impose its pay and working conditions package from April 8. The conditions package was a blow to militants, small majority was a blow to militants.

The first vote, declared by the steward, was a "pretty unanimous for strike action" was greeted by a roar of protest.

Page 2

## Hell's Angels jailed

Twenty-four Hell's Angels were sentenced at Winchester Crown Court for their part in a battle between rival chapters in the New Forest last Easter. The sentences ranged from suspended terms of imprisonment to 15 years for one man convicted of attempted murder.

Page 5

## U.S. hostages setback

Mr Sadegh Ozbahed, the Iranian Foreign Minister, said in Tehran that the Shah's flight from Panama to Egypt had badly damaged efforts to release the American hostages. He also said that the Soviet Union had agreed to regional talks on the Afghanistan crisis.

Page 6

## Action on Debendox

Parents who think their children's birth defects were caused by Debendox taken during pregnancy have formed an action committee to get the drug taken off the market.

Page 5

## Analysis of Budget and White Paper

For the first time today the Chancellor of the Exchequer's annual Budget statement will coincide with the publication of the Public Expenditure White Paper. The Times will tomorrow include full reports of both. There will also be extensive analysis of their political and economic significance as well as discussion of their likely impact on many sectors of Britain's national life by our team of specialist writers.

## Soviet health doubts

The failure of President Brezhnev and Mr Kossygin to attend the opening session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Republic and their absence from meetings with members of the visiting Nicaraguan Sandinista Liberation Front have led to suggestions that the two leaders are both unwell again.

Page 6

## Arms sales setback

Britain's drive to sell arms to China has met with little success. Contracts for big civilian projects, delayed because of policy changes, have also failed to live up to the expectations of British industry. The response to calls for smaller contracts has not been encouraging.

Page 7

## Death threat: The IRA says it will kill

electricity men who cut off supplies to working class homes in Ulster.

Page 2

## Maputo: Warm reception for Lord Soames

reflects Mozambique's desire for closer ties with West.

Page 7

## Classified advertisements: Appointments,

pages 27, 29; La creme de la creme, 29, 30;

Personal, 31, 32; Property, 28, 29.

## Leader page 17

Letters: On child benefits, from Professor J. E. Meade, FBA, and others; on XA, from Sir Andrew Watson, and on the Warwick; on Ulster reforms, from Mr Jeffrey Dudgeon.

## Leading articles: Archbishop of Canterbury;

Assassination of Archbishop Romero; East Africa.

## Features, pages 10, 16

Lawrence Freedman on the shortcomings of civil defence; Bernard Levin with a challenge for non-believers.

## Obituary, page 19

Mgr Oscar Romero, Miss E. K. S. Procter, Admiral Sir Harold Kinahan.

## Arts, page 11

John Higgins talks to Joan Sutherland and Richard Bonynge, leading lady and conductor of Donizetti's Lucia di Lammermoore, which opens tonight at Covent Garden; Falli Moor reports from Berlin on the controversial new production of Peter Weiss's play about Auschwitz.

## Sport, pages 12, 13

Duke of Edinburgh's warning on pitfalls of government aid to sport; Football: Kennedy reports from England team against Spain; Rowing: Sponsors threaten to withdraw from Boat Race; Racing: Michael Phillips visits Vincent O'Brien's stable.

## Business news, pages 20-27

Stock markets: Equities were firm after an earlier opening but fell when better awaited the Budget today. The FT Index closed 5.1 up at 430.3.

Business features: Barry Johnston on foreign threats to computer privacy; Tony Emerson on the Argentine motor industry.

## European News, 6

Home News, 2, 4, 5

Overseas News, 19, 26

Appointments, 11

Arts, 28-27

Business, 20-27

Court, 22

Crossword, 16

Deary, 19

Engagements, 19

Features, 10, 16

Law Report, 13

## Police 'beat and kicked' James Kelly

From David Nicholson-Lord  
Liverpool

James Kelly, aged 53, of Huyton, Merseyside, was clubbed, kicked and beaten by police officers half an hour before he died, a witness of his arrest said at the resumed inquest on Mr Kelly yesterday.

Mr Francis Keegan, said he saw from his flat on the thirteenth floor of a block near by two officers, arresting Mr Kelly. While one of them was making clubbing movements with his hand there was a sound like two blocks of wood being knocked together, he added. Mr Kelly was bunched up on the ground, groaning and trying to avoid the blows.

Asked by Mr George Carman, QC for the Police Federation and four officers, why, as a responsible and respectable citizen, he did not report to the police the attack he saw, Mr Keegan said he had left it in the hands of the Kelly family.

He said he did not see handcuffs put on Mr Kelly, nor did he see Mr Kelly, as suggested by Mr Carman, hit a police sergeant in the face, breaking his teeth.

Earlier, a request for the release of a "third opinion" pathologist's report by counsel for the Kelly family was rejected by representatives of the Merseyside police.

Report, page 4

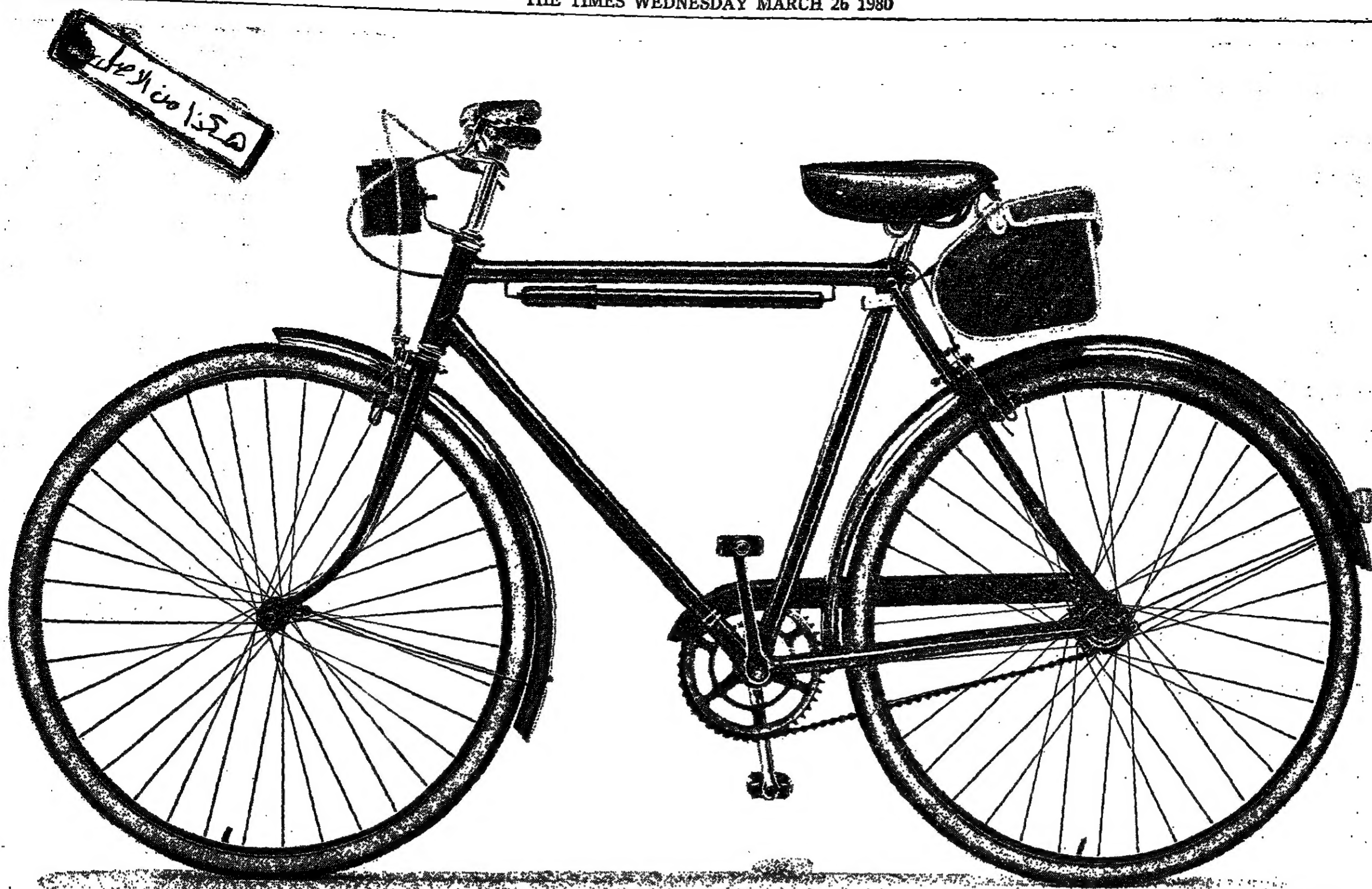
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the name.

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# Costs more to service than a new Mirafiori.

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## HOME NEWS

## Inquest witness says he saw police officers club and kick James Kelly shortly before death

From David Nicholson-Lord Liverpool

A witness at the inquest on James Kelly, the Liverpool man who died last year in police custody, said yesterday that he saw Mr Kelly punched, kicked and clubbed by police officers half an hour before his death.

Mr Francis Keegan, who said he watched Mr Kelly being arrested by police officers from a block of flats, said he had seen no signs of aggressive behaviour from Mr Kelly. He had not shouted at the police men or struck them, Mr Keegan said.

Mr Keegan, a labourer, of Woolfitt Heights, Huyton, which overlooks the waste ground where Mr Kelly was arrested, said he was in the bedroom of his thirteenth floor flat at about midnight on June 20 last when he heard "the sound of a man singing who appeared to be drunk".

When he saw it was only a drunk he went back to bed, but returned to the open window, when he heard a police car engine revving. The car drove on to the waste ground.

He said Mr Kelly was near bushes on the waste ground and one of the policemen held out his arm in a friendly manner to coax him towards the car, saying: "Come on, Blue".

When they got Mr Kelly near the car one of the policemen put his arm over his throat as if to stop him being violent. The officers forced Mr Kelly against the far side of the car. "I could not see properly what was going on", Mr Keegan added.

Suddenly Mr Kelly went down after a sharp leg movement by one of the policemen and rolled over further out from the car, he continued. "I could see both officers were punching the man with their fists while he was lying on the ground".

One of the policemen went to the boot of the police car. "When he came back I could see him clubbing the man as though he was hitting him with something, but I could not make out whether he had anything in his hand or not", Mr Keegan added.

There was a sound like two blocks of wood being knocked together, Mr Kelly was groaning and was hunched up as though trying to avoid the blows. "The police officers were kicking him, and beating him".

After Mr Kelly was "manoeuvred" into the back of the car by the officers, Mr Keegan said he had to answer the door of his flat in a neighbour. When he returned to the window Mr Kelly was outside the car again and the policeman gave him another "going over".

This time, however, it was "not so bad". The officers were moving Mr Kelly around with their feet. He appeared to be unconscious and was not making any noise.

A police van arrived and Mr Kelly was put inside it. The van and police car drove off in different directions.

In reply to Mr George Carman, QC, for the Police Federation and four officers, Mr Keegan said he did not see Mr Kelly bang the Panda car with his fists or about that was going on, Mr Keegan added.

strike them. Mr Carman said there would be evidence that an officer had suffered a broken tooth.

Mr Carman identified Constable Evans as the man who first went over to Mr Kelly and Constable Browning as the other officer. He offered to bring PC Evans into court for identification but Mr Keegan said he would not be able to recognize him.

Earlier during submissions at the start of the hearing, a request by Mr Gilbert Gray, QC, for the family of Mr Kelly, for the release of a scientist's report on Mr Kelly as well as statements made by the police officers involved, was rejected by counsel for the Police Federation and Mr Kenneth Oxford, the Chief Constable of Merseyside.

Mr Carman, for the four officers, said he was not prepared to release copies of their statements but there was no question of concealment because they were prepared to answer questions on their evidence.

Mr Ronald Lloyd, the coroner, said that arrangements were in hand for the jury to visit at night the waste ground where Mr Kelly was arrested.

Later, Mr Martin Quinn, an unemployed labourer, who had been with Mr Kelly and his companions at the Oak Tree public house on the night Mr Kelly died, said there had been a jovial atmosphere at the Oak Tree, and "no aggression". He never saw a bottle of whisky on Mr Kelly.

Mr Quinn said it must have been "near enough to 11.45

pm" when he last saw Mr Kelly, who had been in quite a happy mood and "quite capable of getting himself home".

Mr Carman said that there would be evidence that Mr Kelly was seen flat on his back on the waste ground and that when the police were called he was in a crawling position.

He got up and attacked the Panda car by "banging violently on it like a drunken man enraged by the sight of a police car".

Mr Quinn said it was a very different picture from that of the quiet and friendly man he had left outside the Oak Tree.

In a statement read out by the coroner, Mr Kathleen Stride, a housewife of Huyton, said she had spent part of the evening of Mr Kelly's death at the Oak Tree, and had seen no trouble from the corner where Mr Kelly was sitting with his friends or outside the public house afterwards.

At one stage the coroner warned members of the public among whom were leaders of the Jimmy Kelly Action Committee, of contempt proceedings. That came after Mr Carman complained of ironic laughter during his cross-examination of Mr Quinn on the latter's contact with the police.

Mr Lloyd said he had the powers to impose fines or commit to prison for contempt. He added: "It is my intention that this inquiry should be conducted with dignity and decorum and the degree of respect that is due to the deceased's person".

## Peer backs call for sugar cuts

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

Support for substantial cuts in British sugar output came yesterday from a former agriculture minister. Lord Cledwyn of Penrhos said that cuts planned by the European Commission were "generally sound".

Lord Cledwyn, as Mr Cledwyn Hughes, was Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in the Wilson Government in 1968. The EEC Commission plan to cut British sugar output by almost a third is opposed by Mr Peter Walker, the present minister.

Lord Cledwyn supported the plan in a pamphlet written by him and Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Essex, South East and published by the Open Seas Forum. The pamphlet defends the continued preferential access to Britain of more than a million tons a year of cane sugar from developing countries.

Mr Richard Body, Conservative MP for Holland with Boston and chairman of the forum, said yesterday that cane growers in Africa and the West Indies were suffering because the EEC was dumping its surplus beet sugar on world markets at low prices subsidized by European taxpayers.

He believed that EEC production of beet was excessive while output of cane in developing countries needed to be safeguarded.

Singer (Open Seas Forum, 177 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1).

## Protest over changes in home help policy

By Pat Hesly

Social Services Correspondent

Thousands of the poorest elderly and disabled people will be forced to pay for their home help under a government policy change being implemented this month. But they will still be able to get cash help if they employ private domestic services instead of home help provided by local councils.

Disability organizations and local authority associations are protesting strongly at the change. Mr Alfred Morris, Labour MP for Wythenshawe and minister with special responsibility for the disabled in the last government, forecast last night that it would mean many more severely disabled people going into institutions, at greater cost to the public, because they could not afford the change.

The change affects people receiving supplementary benefits who need home help because they cannot manage about. At present, most receive help free, but those whose local councils charge a flat rate for home help receive a weekly addition to their benefits to cover half or three-quarters of the cost.

The new Social Security Bill, due to receive Royal Assent in May and to take effect in November, proposes new regulations to stop extra supplementary benefit to pay for local

authority home help, but not for private domestic services.

The change, however, has already been implemented in a policy decision by the Supplementary Benefits Commission to stop more people claiming help before the Bill takes effect.

A number of local authorities were planning to introduce flat rate charges from April 1 to raise extra money without imposing high charges on supplementary benefit claimants.

Under the existing system, if every local authority in England and Wales had introduced such a charge they could collectively gain an extra £10m a year to offset cuts according to estimates by Mr Brian Roycroft, secretary of the Association of Directors of Social Services.

But Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under-Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said in a parliamentary written answer yesterday to Mr Morris that the Government wanted to avoid "illusory public expenditure savings" where local authorities gained revenue at the expense of central government expenditure through the supplementary benefits scheme. The commission had therefore decided to stop paying any further additions to weekly benefits for home help services from the end of February. People already receiving them would continue to do so "at least until November".

Mrs Chalker estimated that the cost to local authorities of their supplementary benefit benefit subsidy for home help would be about £140,000 a year, based on the present number of recipients of 18,000.

## Dutch pork imports for Britain

By Hugh Clayton

Imports of Dutch pork to Britain will be allowed for the first time next month, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food said yesterday.

British Government veterinary inspectors have given the Dutch pig industry a clean bill of health at a time of extreme political sensitivity in the EEC about barriers in the food trade.

Ministry veterinary inspectors said yesterday that it was now safe to allow imports of Dutch pork because there had been no swine fever or foot-and-mouth disease in the Netherlands for many years.

Dutch farmers have increased their share of the British bacon trade in recent years and are now keen to gain a foothold in the pork market.

Most of the pork that they send to Britain will go to tinned meat factories and the economic impact of Dutch sales is expected to be small. The political significance of Dutch imports will be considerable.

Britain has been careful throughout long negotiations with Dutch authorities to abide scrupulously by EEC rules. The ministry does not want to prejudice its case against the French ban on imports of British lamb.

The Government is also anxious to defend Britain's rules for milk, which ensure that milk is imported except at prohibitive prices. The ministry has received a letter from the European Commission asking the British Government to justify within 30 days the rules that keep imported milk out.

British law requires milk sold here to be packed in a dairy approved by a local authority in this country. That law, which is opposed by continental dairies, makes milk imports uneconomic.

The British Government will invoke Article 36 of the Treaty of Rome in its defence of the milk rules. That allows EEC countries to impose national controls where no Community rule operates. There is no such rule for the harmonization of milk health regulations.

## Manx customs pact stands

The Isle of Man takeover of its customs service next Tuesday will bring no noticeable change, Manx Government made clear yesterday. The agreement keeping Manx and British customs duties in line still stands.

But traders will no longer send value-added tax to Britain, and VAT variations on non-exportable local services will be

## Musical jewel in Manchester needs £1.5m

From John Chartres Manchester

An appeal for £1.5m needed to develop parts of Chetham's School of Music was launched yesterday and was given an immediate incentive by the announcement of a grant of £250,000 from Greater Manchester County Council and of a "generous" donation from the Prince of Wales. The total has reached £400,000, although the sum given by the Prince was not disclosed.

Chetham's, founded in 1653 in a priests' college beside what is now Manchester Cathedral with money left in the will of Humphrey Chetham, functioned as a bluecoats orphan school linked with the cathedral choir until 1951.

It became an independent grammar school until 1963 when a far-sighted decision was made by the governors and trustees (trustees) to exploit its musical traditions and turn it into a school catering exclusively for children with exceptional musical gifts.

Over the past 10 years up to

## Charge for blood processing proposed

The Government is considering charging private hospitals for the processing and handling of blood, Sir George Young, Under-Secretary of State for Social Services, told the standing committee on the Health Services Bill yesterday.

But the idea was immediately attacked by Mr Albert Alfred Dubs, Labour MP for Wandsworth, Battersea, South. He said it was undesirable and an example of how private practice could not coexist with the National Health Service.

The Press Association reported earlier yesterday that the Government was considering making private patients in health service hospitals pay for the blood they were given.

But Sir George told the committee later that there could be no question of charging private patients in NHS or private hospitals for blood.

The DHSS was "Looking at the feasibility of charging private hospitals for the processing and handling of blood."

"There is no question of blood being denied to those who are ill and need it," he said. "Indeed, some blood donors might become private patients, and it would be quite wrong either to deny them blood, or to charge them."

## £4m silver gang well prepared for hijacked haul

By Stewart Tandler

The bullion raiders who escaped with nearly £4m in silver on Monday were better organized than some of their predecessors. In a similar raid some years ago the raiders came unprepared for the weight of their haul. It was so awkward to manhandle that when the police arrived they found many ingots left by the roadside.

For the average ingot is not designed for handy transportation. Normally it weighs 1,000 troy ounces apiece, and measures 12 to 13in long by 5in deep and 3in across. Each carries the mark of the melder and assayer, plus a quality mark and the individual sign or "chip" of a company.

The London Silver Market, the London Metal Exchange and representatives of the international market handle silver bullion. It is impossible to calculate the volume, or value, of such traffic through their hands at any one time.

The only published clue is the weekly figure for silver in stock in the London Metal Exchange's official warehouses. At the end of last week the figure was 15 million troy ounces, worth about £155m. There are no figures for gold holdings.

How much bullion is in transit at any one time is also difficult to gauge. Within the City of London both cash and metal

are constantly being moved throughout the day. The Bank of England has its own security unit and cooperates with police forces in areas through which consignments travel.

Each police force provides its own guard for the duration of the consignments' transportation through its area, and City police officers stay with the load all the way.

Most commercial bullion loads are handled by one specialist security company, which yesterday refused to make any comment on Monday's robbery or its own methods. But the company is known to use heavily armed guards.

In the past few years a number of technology has been harnessed by the security industry to repulse the growing number of attacks. Armour and radio contact are among the minimum techniques used by firms like Securicor, which handle £40,000m in cash each year.

Swift, surprise attacks have become the main tactic of the robber gangs who have found it increasingly difficult to attack static sites equipped with complex defences. Their main chance of success arises when money is being unloaded or loaded, or while it is in transit.

At Barking not only was there no armed guard, but it must have been simple to unhook

the container on a couple of it to another disappear among traffic going the London to the docks.

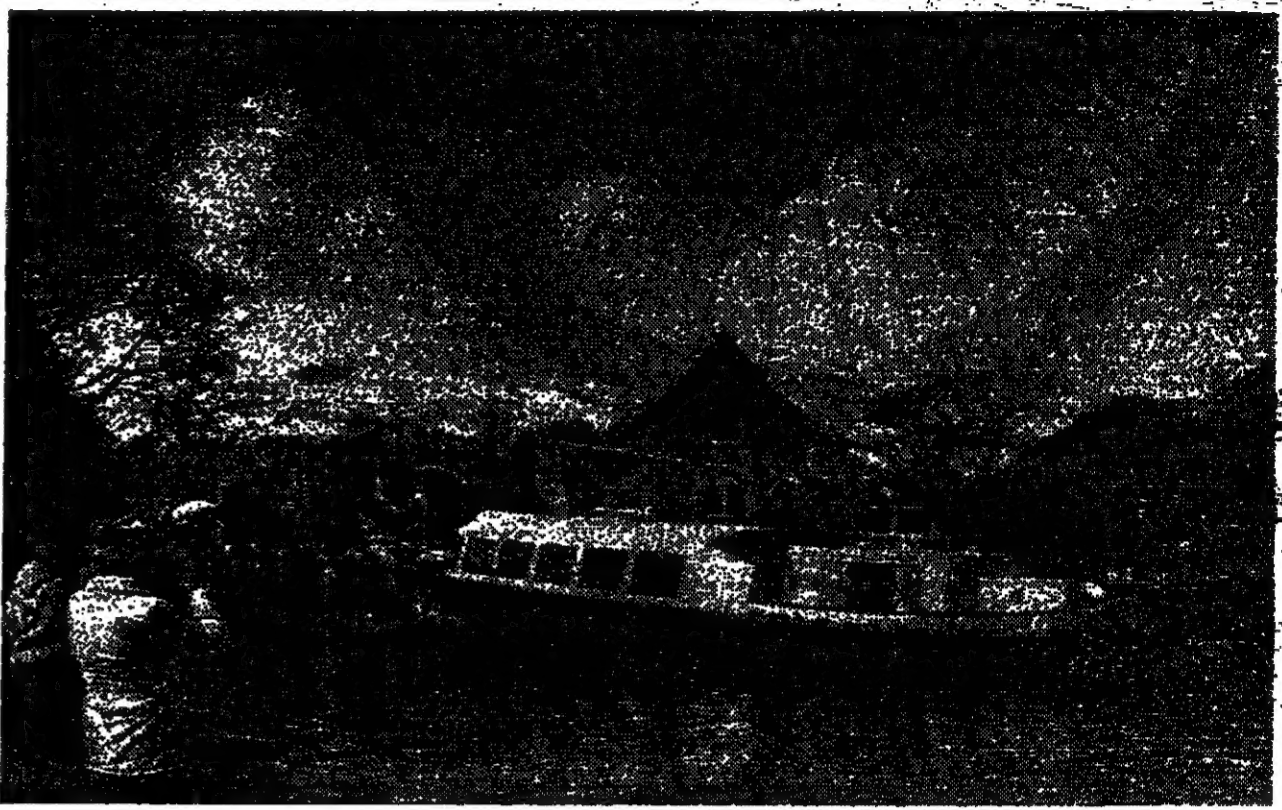
Police officers are usually notified of such consignments by the banks. The police force is usually notified by the banks.

Bullion is usually rather than export London, and there is doubt that new money, which was in occurrence, did less quarters.

Exactly what the do with the silver, the ingots are means if they are in the gang must be their security. It is arranged a buyer together the plan robbery.

The silver could down, but this a special equipment: the proof of the me. However, once the silver grain it was easy to sell back on mate market.

It depends on the raiders can afford year ago silver was a child of its own raiders struck at a but the market has decline.



The steam yacht Gondola, built in 1859, on Coniston Water yesterday after being resold by the National Trust at a cost of £10,000.

## Exhibition seeks to promote greater safety in the home

Six thousand people are killed by accidents at home each year, 800,000 suffer serious injury, and 700 die in fires; with those statistics the Design Council yesterday set out to show that when people are at home they are anything but safe.

The council was launching an exhibition at the Design Centre, Haymarket, London, to encourage people to take safety and security at home seriously. Fires cost the insurance industry £30m a year, and burglaries in 1978 netted £63m in property.

With forethought, a little expenditure, and tougher legislation, the figures could be sharply cut, the council said.

Accidents in the home claim as many lives as road crashes, and six times more than fatal accidents at work, where the Health and Safety at Work Act operates.

Poor product design is responsible for many accidents, and architects often make burglary easier, for example, by designing house entrances for privacy, making it easier for

burglars to work unobserved. The council points to the absence of regulations, present in other countries, insisting on safety glass in doors; 1,500 children aged five to nine are hurt as a result each year.

Twenty children a year die in falls from "pivot" windows, architects still specify "plank-style" banisters that children can fall through, and fiddlers without "non-slip" feet, often lead to accidents.

There are 500,000 fires at home a year, many caused by children playing with matches, frayed wiring on electrical appliances, chip pans and cigarettes.

The killer is usually smoke. A simple smoke detector can be bought for £11 to £15, although the council is having to wait for a British-made version to go into production, and small fire extinguishers can save life and property.

The council has published a book, *Safety and Security in the Home*, at £3.75, to go with the exhibition, detailing the measures to be taken and the equipment available.

## Carpet dealers' hopes swept from under them

By Geraldine Norman

The London carpet dealers' hopes of securing valuable antique Turkish for a song were dashed when it sold for £19,000 at Phillips yesterday. The Syrian carpet with regular geometric rolls on a brick red field (3.27 by 2.55 metres) had been estimated by Phillips at £2,000-£3,000; unfortunately for those in the trade who knew that it was worth more than this a very similar carpet came up in a £8 auction in New York last Wednesday and sold for \$30,000 (£13,600).

The auctioneers were thus alerted and increased their reserve on the piece. In the event most of London's carpet trade were in evidence palpating with excitement and a few others from overseas. The carpet was bought by one of Phillips' staff bidding on behalf of a German private collector. Phillips carpet expert commented: "It had been in the room and they had seen who was bidding, I expect the trade would have run him up." By this he meant that they would have gone on bidding against him to ensure that he made an expensive purchase.

The sale of furniture and carpets included a set of Regency mahogany dining chairs at £10,500 (estimate £5,000-£5,500) and a set of 11 mahogany library seats, priced at £2,000 (estimate £1,000-£1,500). Both sets were sold by Williamson and are the South American rather curiously in a Englishness. The £160,000 with 12 per cent.

In both London and lands Christie's has exceptional difficulty persuading over the past 20 years. Both sets of made £484,021 at Museum, Laren, on 44 per cent of this total unsold lots. The price had been even high for a modern picture auction been sold afterwards.

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## Rescuers find bodies of two Grampian climbers

Two young, experienced climbers were found dead by rescuers yesterday after a birthday tragedy in the Grampian mountains.

Miss Lynn Brown and Mr Neil McCallum started their climb in the mountains above Braemar last Thursday, and were due back on Sunday, Miss Brown's 24th birthday. When they failed to return, rescuers were alerted, and their bodies, still roped together were found in a corrie on the slopes of Coisneag. They had fallen almost 300ft.

Mr McCallum, aged 23, of Groatton Place, Fraserburgh, Grampian, appeared to have been killed in the fall. His companion, of St. Andrews Road, Langward, Fife, had died of exposure after struggling into her survival bag.

The couple were friends from their days at Aberdeen University, where Neil was president of the climbing club.

Lynn's father, Mr Jack Brown, said: "We do not know what happened to Lynn and Neil. They were experienced climbers." Lynn had been on training courses, and was a

part-time instructor. Mr Brown's only 10 years motor cycle accident. "Grampian" was his year. Mr Brown said: "no have to start life again."

About 30 people and a helicopter were in the search. The bodies were discovered just before

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## WHAT'S YOUR TRUE WORTH?

A quiz for people with a will

Check the values that are important to you in this list—financial, human, and long term, you may well be worth more than you think.

1) What is the current market value of your home? (A recent survey by a famous building society showed that house prices in Britain had risen by 420% in the past ten years—and in the South East by more than that. Look at prices in your local paper).

2) What of your other assets. Furniture, household goods, car?

3) Savings, shares and the like?

4) And now the difficult question. How do you value the goodwill attached to yourself and your family name? Would you like that to be remembered and respected for generations ahead? Tick if your answer is "yes".

5) Have you considered how you might achieve this? Would you be interested in constructive ideas to ensure it? Tick if "yes".

6) Do you care about the increasingly difficult plight of elderly people, and would you like to ensure that something practical is done about it in your name? Tick if "yes".

Your "worth" can continue to put your caring into action for many years ahead, with a legacy or gift to Help the Aged. We have several proven plans that enable you to endow work for old people, to benefit them and yourself from your property, and to continue to mark your family name with a particular scheme.

Write and tell us whether you would like information on legacy tax-saving, property benefit or linking your goodwill with a particular Centre.

Please write to: Help the Aged, Room T4L, 32 Dover Street, London W1A 2AP.

## Mrs Thatcher urged to halt 'cruel policy'

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Prime Minister was urged last night to reconsider her "callous, unjust and cruel policy" towards the unemployed in an ode of the Budget appeal by Youthaid, the youth unemployment charity.

Cutting unemployment benefits, both for the unemployed and for the increase in bitterness and social conflict, the organization said.

"It is suggested that you will describe this as a 'work incentive Budget'." Miss Clare Short, director of Youthaid, said in her letter to Mrs Thatcher.

"This really does appear to be a very cruel joke when as the same time Government policies make it inevitable that we will experience a large rise in unemployment."

The Government was planning services on the basis of an expected rise in unemployment to nearly two million by the end of 1981, Miss Short said. Mrs Thatcher therefore knew that individuals would become unemployed through no fault of their own, yet "you intend purposely and consciously to increase their poverty."

Proposals to end the earnings-related system, which was paid to only one sixth of the unemployed and could never exceed 85 per cent of the previous year's wages, would in no way increase work incentives. But they would increase the poverty and bitterness of people thrown out of their jobs after having worked and paid their national insurance contributions for many years.

## Headmaster charged

The headmaster of Sidcup Hill Primary School, London, appeared in court yesterday charged with indecently assaulting two girls aged 10 and 11. Roy Lewis, 42, of 51, of Longlands Road, Sidcup, was remanded on bail by Hoxby magistrates.



## ME NEWS

Conception group set up by  
parents who blame  
ug for birth defects

label Ferriman  
Services Correspondent  
its who think their child-  
rth defects were caused  
drug Debendox taken  
pregnancy have formed  
on committee to try to  
a drug taken off the

up met Mr Jack Ashley,  
MP for Stoke-on-Trent,  
yesterday at the House  
mons to set up the com-  
The parents intend to  
either the 70 people who  
written to Mr Ashley  
the drug and arrange  
ated action.

Valerie Alexander, who  
ected chairman of the  
tee and whose fifth child,  
was born with half an  
ssing, said that her chief  
was to prevent any  
woman or child from  
g.  
committee would have to  
r whether to take a test  
Richardson-Merrill  
who produced the  
after the decision of a  
a Orlando, Florida, that  
ug had caused a birth  
in a child  
Ashley also called for an

emergency meeting of the Com-  
mittee on the Safety of Medi-  
cines to overhaul drug surveil-  
lance in Britain, which he called  
"grossly inadequate".

He said: "There have been  
no less than 65,000 adverse re-  
actions to drugs over the past  
17 years, involving 1,700 drugs."

"Yet only 14 yellow warn-  
ings have been issued by the  
safety committee, and the com-  
mittee has admitted that only  
10 per cent of all adverse re-  
actions are reported to them."

He thought the total of 65,000  
was a "guesstimate" by the De-  
partment of Health and Social  
Security, which had supplied  
him with the figure in a parlia-  
mentary answer.

Richardson-Merrill said yester-  
day that the Florida decision  
was not a victory for the people  
who sued because they were  
not awarded any damages, only  
£20,000 for medical expenses.

"The issue is one of such  
complexity that it can only be  
considered by an authority with  
the right expertise. It makes  
no sense to have it tried in  
public on an emotional basis.  
One does not know what other  
drugs the mothers took."

Museum of  
heraldry  
to open at  
Tower

By Ian Bradley

Visitors to the Tower of Lon-  
don next week will have a new  
attraction, a heralds' museum,  
which has been established in  
the old Waterloo Barracks, near  
the White Tower.

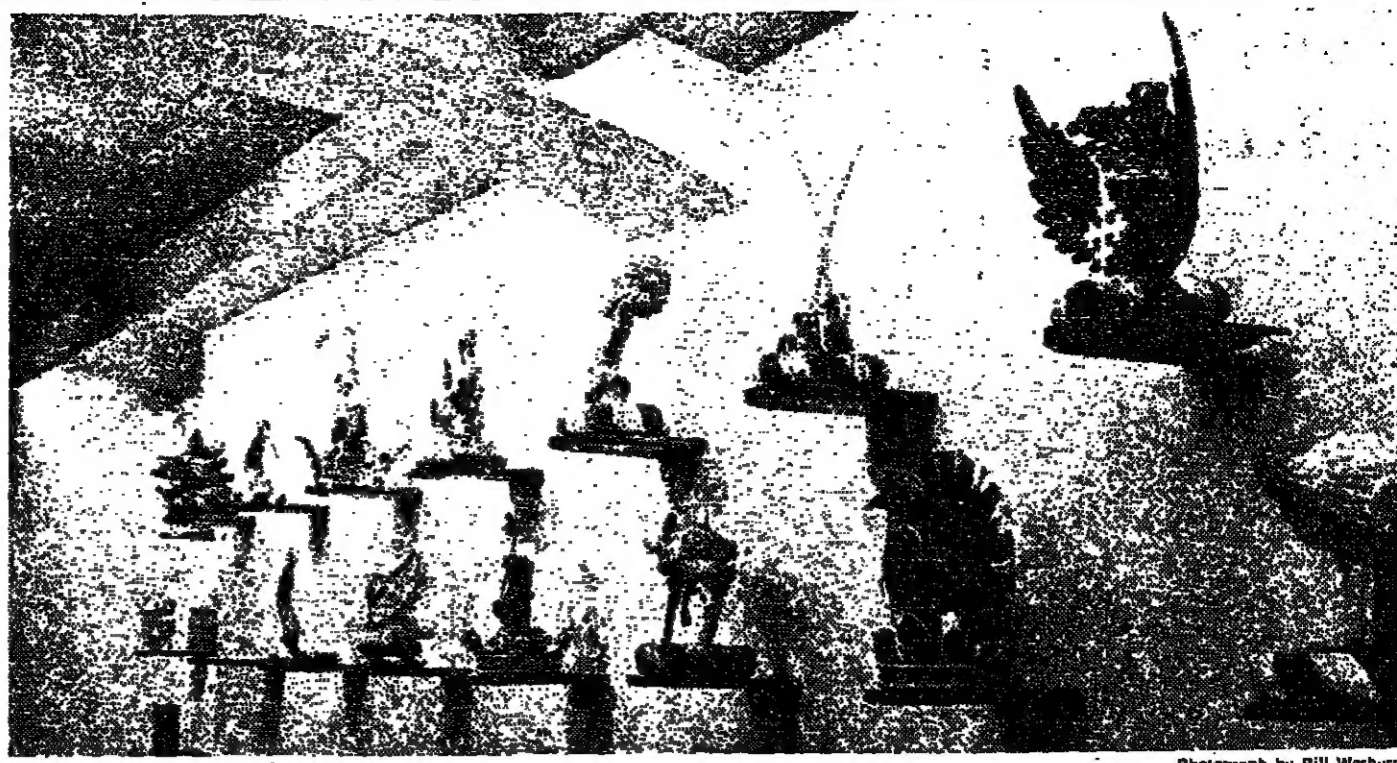
The museum, which is being  
opened officially today by the  
Duke of Kent, is the idea of Sir  
Anthony Wagner, Clarenceux  
King of Arms, and until 1978,  
Garret King of Arms, head of  
the College of Arms.

Sir Anthony said yesterday  
that the idea of establishing a  
museum of heraldry went back  
to 1933 when as a pursuivant  
(junior herald) he was search-  
ing through the cellars of the  
college to find items for an  
exhibition to mark its 450th  
anniversary.

"Some of the objects I found  
and at last on display here today," he said.

Originally the heralds hoped  
to establish a museum next to  
the college in Queen Victoria  
Street but that proved impos-  
sible.

The museum traces the de-  
velopment of heraldry from its  
origins in the twelfth century.  
It includes examples of the  
tabards which are still worn by



Crests of Knights of the Garter on display in the Heralds' Museum of the Tower of London.

heralds on state occasions, 70  
shields painted with the arms of  
former heralds, and a large  
collection of crests of Knights  
of the Garter which were for-  
merly in St George's Chapel,  
Windsor.

Among the manuscripts on  
display are a grant of arms to

John Shakespeare, father of the  
playwright.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rodney  
Denny, Somerset Herald of  
Arms and deputy director of  
the museum, wants it to be a  
record of the heralds' present  
work as well as of their past  
achievements.

"Heraldry in England has not  
been indissolubly linked with  
the nobility as it has in other  
European countries", he said.  
"It has been far more a way of  
symbolizing someone who has  
achieved a certain eminence and  
position in life. Therefore the

College of Arms is alive and  
kicking whereas many of our  
colleagues abroad are social  
fossils."

The museum will be open  
every day from April 1 to Sep-  
tember 30. Admission is free to  
those who have bought entrance  
tickets to the Tower.

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Essex boats  
defy ban  
on herring  
fishing

From Our Correspondent  
Colchester

Angry Essex fishermen yester-  
day defied a government  
ban on herring fishing and  
they plan to dump their  
catch on the Ministry of Agri-  
culture's doorstep as a protest.

The fishermen, from West  
Mersea, near Colchester, risk  
fines of £50,000 and confis-  
cation of their boats and nets by  
landing their catch.

One of the men, Mr John  
Jowers, aged 34, said: "If we  
cannot fish they might just as  
well take away our boats. They  
are already taking away our  
livelihoods."

The protesters, representing  
16 full-time skippers and crews  
based on Mersea Island, set out  
to secure early yesterday to  
catch herring.

Mr Jowers said: "Whatever  
the ministry may say, we know  
that stocks are plentiful and  
we see no reason why foreign  
fish should be imported when  
there are fishermen kicking  
their heels at home."

The fishermen blame the  
ministry and the Government  
for bowing to Common Market  
pressure to ban herring fish-  
ing. But they claim that com-  
munity boats are netting more  
fish in a week than the  
Islanders catch in a year.

A Ministry of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Food spokesman  
commented: "We shall not be  
helping fishermen if we allow  
stocks to dwindle to nothing. It  
illegal fishing will only make  
matters worse for everyone."

Hull landings: For the first  
time for more than two months  
trawlers will land fish at Hull  
for Easter as a result of the  
docks board announcing that  
catches will be handled at a  
new low rate of £12.63 a tonne.

Ships have been diverted to  
other ports because landing  
charges at Hull were considered  
too high.

ts Council aid increased  
line with higher grant

Arts Reporter  
Arts Council is to pay  
pence 13.5 per cent more  
organizations it supports  
result of the film  
in the Government  
or 1980-81 of £70m.

ough the rise in the  
sion is described as a  
he council insists that  
percentage should have  
to account the film cur-  
year's figure, and the  
special grants for Covent

Garden. That brings it down to  
just over 13 per cent more  
There is also a deficit from  
last year of between £6m and  
£7m.

The council never gives  
details of individual grants, but  
they are frequently made on a  
case-by-case basis, and the  
client receiving proportionately  
less one year than another,  
either because another is more  
deserving, or because private  
sponsorship has improved.

## Dismissed director awarded £8,940

From Our Correspondent  
Shrewsbury

Within two months of  
reassuring workers at five  
Shropshire factories that their  
jobs were safe after a takeover,  
a £300,000-a-year managing  
director was called to the new  
owners' headquarters and told  
he was dismissed.

"I thought I had been called  
to a staff meeting but they said  
I was being dismissed because  
our style did not mix well."

Mr Frank Belok, aged 60, of Sutton  
Road, Shrewsbury, told an  
industrial tribunal which up-

held his unfair dismissal claim  
at Shrewsbury yesterday.

Mr Belok, managing director  
of Silhouette (Salop) Ltd, said  
Shropshire factories that their  
company, Silhouette (London)  
Ltd, swimwear manufacturers,  
was awarded £8,940, including  
a maximum compensation  
award of £5,750.

He had been with the com-  
pany for 35 years.  
"This is one of the unaccept-  
able faces of capitalism that we  
hear of from time to time,"  
Mr Anthony Gordon, chairman  
of the Tribunal, said.

Mr Belok said Silhouette  
(London) Ltd was taken over  
last August by W. L. Paxon  
and Son Ltd, a Leeds-based  
firm of clothing manufacturers.

Since his dismissal two of the  
Shropshire factories, at Telford  
and Market Drayton, had closed.

Mr Michael Baker, counsel  
for Mr Belok, said Mr Belok  
was compensating a High Court  
claim for damages for wrongful  
dismissal but the issue of a writ  
had been deferred pending  
talks with the new owners.

The company was not repre-  
sented at the meeting.

## Mr Scargill to give evidence

Mr Arthur Scargill, president  
of the Yorkshire area of the  
National Union of Mineworkers,  
said yesterday that he would  
give evidence on picketing to  
the employment committee of  
the House of Commons on  
April 2.

There had been doubt that  
Mr Scargill would attend the  
hearing because of his objec-  
tion to being limited to answer-  
ing questions instead of making  
a full statement.

But Mr Scargill said yester-  
day: "Following a special meet-

ing of the employment com-  
mittee, I was contacted by tele-  
phone last night and subse-  
quently received a telegram this  
morning.

"The terms of the telegram  
and telephone conversation  
indicate that the committee have  
now reverted to their original  
invitation which will allow me  
an initial oral submission in re-  
sponse to the general points  
raised in their correspondence."

"This will cover all aspects  
of picketing and the Employ-  
ment Bill currently before  
Parliament."

ell's Angel gets 15 years and  
dgc gives warning on violence

Our Correspondent  
Alderhot

Justice Sheldon passed  
at Winchester Crown  
yesterday on 24 Hell's  
for their part in a clash  
chapters in the New  
last Easter.

judge said: "If you  
yourself to be above  
and able to do as you  
you are wrong, particu-  
you think that the  
warfare that has been  
d. The lesson I intend  
will be a lesson to that

sentences ranged from  
ed terms of imprison-  
15 years' jail for one  
uninvited of attempted

he 11-week trial 24  
nts were convicted of  
assembly and five  
were acquitted. It was  
hat Windsor Chapter of  
gels was attacked after  
to join other chap-  
an all-England chap-  
uns and other weapons  
sed and Richard Shar-  
32, president of the  
r Chapter, was left for  
ter he had been shot  
times, once in the head,  
45 pistol by an unknow

udge said he hoped that  
iterness among rival  
would not lead to vio-  
lence. "If it does it  
added one more dem-  
of the shallowness and

unreality of the claim that the  
Hell's Angels are a peaceful,  
law-abiding and worthwhile  
organization.

"Any who may be convicted  
of taking part in any violence  
that may occur can expect little  
if any leniency from any court."

Earlier, the judge said, no  
one would have any criticism of  
the Hell's Angels if their objects  
were to promote motor cycling,  
give legitimate help to mem-  
bers and support charitable  
affairs, as they had sometimes  
done.

"If your organization or any  
of its branches or chapters have  
acquired an unsavoury reputa-  
tion, it is because you have gone  
out of your way to create it by  
combat such as that demon-  
strated in the course of this  
case, which shows little or no  
regard for ordinary civilized  
behaviour or for others beside  
yourselves."

Kenneth Littlefield, aged 25,  
vice-president of the Wessex  
Chapter, who was said to have  
shouted "shoot him", had been  
convicted by the jury of attempt-  
ing to murder Mr Sharman, and  
violent assembly.

Sentencing Mr Littlefield, of  
Wimbledon Close, Camberley,  
Surrey, to 15 years' imprison-  
ment on the attempted murder  
charge, and 10 years, no run  
concurrently on the riot charge,  
Mr Justice Sheldon said: "You  
are sufficiently intelligent to  
understand that riot or gang  
warfare of such proportions as  
disclosed in this case, particu-  
larly when firearms are used,

Football ground ban on  
boy extended indefinitely

From Our Correspondent  
Aldershot

Aldershot Football Club won  
its fight yesterday to have  
supporter banned from its  
ground. When its case against a  
boy aged 16 came before Alder-  
shot County Court, the boy  
agreed to the temporary injunc-  
tion against him entering the  
ground, which was granted at a  
previous hearing, being ex-  
tended indefinitely.

Mr Michael Cosway, the club  
secretary, agreed not to press  
a claim for £300 damages  
against the boy, who was said  
to have tried four times to beat  
the club's ban on his attendance

at home matches. The judge  
awarded costs against the boy.  
They may amount to £250 if  
they include costs incurred at a  
previous hearing.

The boy's father said his son  
might try to persuade Alder-  
shot Football Club to let him  
back into the ground in a year  
or two. "I have advised him  
to let things cool down and then  
write a letter of apology and  
maybe appear before the club  
committee", he said. "He has  
learned his lesson."

The boy was originally  
banned after running on to the  
pitch and using obscene lan-  
guage.

## Eddystone flight

Trinity House, which con-  
trols Britain's lighthouses, is  
to build a £50,000 helicopter  
landing deck at Eddystone  
Lighthouse, near Plymouth, to  
help maintenance work and the  
transfer of supplies.

## Meter reading aid

Some 300,000 slides were  
issued free yesterday by the  
National Gas Consumers Coun-  
cil to help people read gas  
meters and control the amount  
they use.

Pyke said yesterday that  
made a statement to  
police on the day after  
aged incident after she  
newspaper photographs  
id she had been involved  
nal welfare for 40 years.

Science report

Medicine: Alcohol and mortality

## Medicine: Alcohol and mortality

Medical Correspondent  
all the warnings about the  
us effects on health of an  
e, self-indulgent life style,  
e crumb of comfort, the  
e has been the suggestion  
erate drinking may re-  
he risks of heart disease.  
research shows that  
that people who drink  
r two of wine daily seem  
fewer attacks of coronary  
osis than do total abstain-

for the drinkers, that  
has been put into gloomy  
tive by a big health re-  
project in Yugoslavia. A  
h group at the Yugoslav  
s of Chronic Diseases and  
ology enrolled more than  
men aged 35 to 62 and

as part of a detailed examination  
collected information on their  
denial habits. The men were  
kept under observation for the  
next seven years. As might have  
been expected from earlier stud-  
ies, both fatal and non-fatal  
attacks of coronary thrombosis  
were less frequent in men who  
drank alcohol at least once a day.

However, when total deaths  
were analysed, the overall mortal-  
ity was lowest in the men who  
drank least (none). Claimed to be  
drank less frequently. The reduction in  
regular drinkers in deaths from  
heart disease was more than  
counterbalanced by deaths from  
accidents and strokes. No associ-  
ation was found between alcohol  
consumption and deaths from  
cancer (although other studies  
have shown links between alcohol

and cancer of the mouth, pharynx,  
larynx, and oesophagus).

The high mortality from stroke  
among the heavy drinkers seems  
to have been due to their raised  
blood pressures, which may have  
been due to their high consump-  
tion of alcohol. Otherwise the  
study (like most epidemiological  
research projects) throws little  
light on causation. Alcohol in  
moderate amounts may indeed  
protect against heart disease; but  
as long as drinkers continue to  
smoke more than average, have  
high blood pressure, and have  
more accidents, overall the effect  
of drinking seems likely to remain  
hazardous to health rather than  
a benefit.

Lancet (March 22, 1980, p 613).

Brazil.  
Your leading partner on  
half the planet.

Hundreds of European, American, and  
Japanese companies have discovered the vast  
potential of Brazil, the leading market of the  
entire Southern Hemisphere.

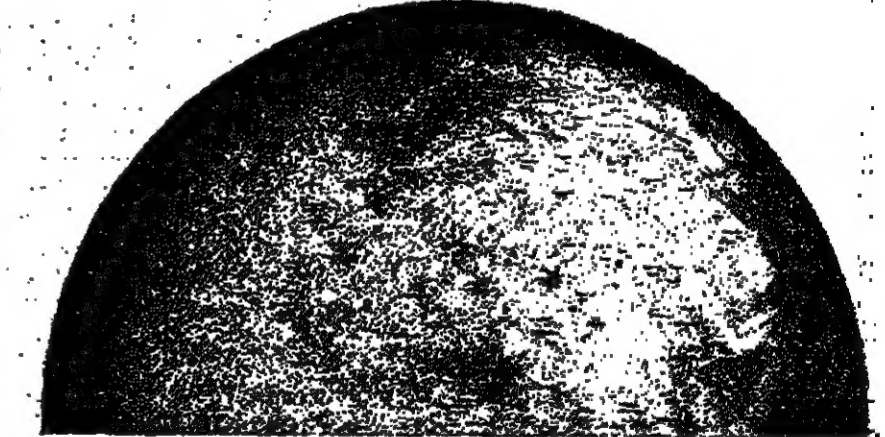
And the investments that many have made  
in this rapidly growing South American giant  
are already paying off handsomely.

The list of international companies that have  
invested in Brazil includes such prestigious  
names as AEG-Telefunken, Bayer, Bosch,  
Daimler-Benz, Krupp, Siemens, Volkswagen,  
Philips, Verolme, General Motors, Ford, Fiat,  
Philco, Brown Boveri, Volvo, Ishikawajima,  
Michelin, Pirelli, Mitsubishi, Sharp, Goodyear,  
Olivetti, and many others.



There are compelling reasons for this con-  
fidence in Brazil: Brazil is the 5th largest country  
in the world, 7th largest in population, 8th in the  
Western World in Gross National Product, 8th in  
industrial production, and one of the leaders in  
agriculture and animal husbandry. It has one of  
the largest hydro-electric potentials - aggregating  
about 209 million kilowatts - plus vast mineral  
resources, such as iron ore, uranium, vast amounts  
of bauxite, as well as gold, tin, copper, manganese  
and tungsten. Moreover, the country's steel, petro-  
chemical, automotive, aeronautical and ship-  
building industries are highly developed.

Brazil's manufacturing industries are expand-  
ing at an accelerating pace, and are becoming  
increasingly competitive in international markets.



Its service companies, particularly those engaged  
in project engineering and specialized techno-  
logies, are quite active internationally, associated  
in many cases with organizations of other countries.

A vigorous market, economy, a favorable  
business climate, a highly developed infrastruc-  
ture, a plentiful supply of skilled and semi-skilled  
labor, and vast growth potential stimulated on a  
growing scale by a government policy focusing on  
free enterprise combine to make Brazil the great  
new frontier for international investors. Discover  
for yourself the investment opportunities and  
incentives that Brazil has to offer. Ranging from  
the import of quality Brazilian manufactured pro-  
ducts in every sector to setting up new operations  
with Brazilian firms, or profitable capital invest-  
ment.

Brazil. Your leading partner on half the planet.

BANCO DO BRASIL

**Hanover  
Fair '80**  
The year of  
Brazil







## zambian opening to the West cated in Soames talks as enterprise makes comeback

Asford  
arch 25  
smith with which  
mes, Governor of  
Rhodesia, was re-  
ing his brief stay in  
e this week is not  
fection of Mozam-  
disaffection with the  
in Rhodesia but also  
e clearest indication  
desire to establish  
tomic and political  
he West.  
e it became apparent  
d be a settlement in  
Mozambique has  
y trying to improve  
s with Western and  
European nations and  
e time, its drive to  
new trade and aid  
the West has coinci-  
President Machel's  
mpts to put his  
economy on a more  
ing.  
President Machel  
ong public criticism  
ficiency and corrup-  
tism within his Ad-  
n, the state-run cor-  
and the ruling  
ary. He also prom-  
in to private enter-  
e small and medium-  
es, many of which  
malized when the  
ame independent.  
followed up his  
inefficiency by re-  
e ministers of their  
s was designed to  
e people that President  
uld not tolerate in-  
any level.  
President Machel  
President Machel

has been worried by the de-  
teriorating state of the economy  
for some time but felt there  
was little he could do about  
it until the Rhodesian problem  
had been resolved. Now that is  
out of the way he has decided  
the time has come to put his  
own house in order.  
Though Mr Machel is still  
committed to establishing  
socialism in Mozambique, his  
recent actions and speeches re-  
flect a change of emphasis in  
favour of a limited return of  
free enterprise. Business  
sources in Maputo believe that  
this, together with the reopen-  
ing of the Rhodesian border,  
could lead to a modest improve-  
ment in the country's economy.  
The President hopes that this  
revival will be further stimu-  
lated by trade and economic  
assistance from the West rather  
than from the Communist block  
countries with which Mozam-  
bique has close political ties  
and on which it depends for  
military assistance.  
Significantly during his talks  
with the Mozambican leader,  
Lord Soames, who returned to  
Salisbury today, suggested that  
the repair and rehabilitation of  
Mozambique's railways and  
ports could be partly financed  
by the European Development  
Fund.  
Lord Soames said later that  
although Mozambique was not  
party to the Lusaka Convention,  
a strong case for European  
assistance could be made on the  
grounds that these railways and  
ports served countries such as  
Zambia and Zaire which were  
Lome members.  
Lord Soames said he had also

discussed with President  
Machel and Mr Joaquim Chis-  
sano, the Foreign Minister, the  
possibility of Mozambique itself  
becoming a member of the  
Lomé Convention. If this hap-  
pened it would be a significant  
political shift by Mozambique  
whose present close ties with  
East Germany (and particularly  
its position on the status of  
Berlin) have hitherto prevented  
its association with the Euro-  
pean Community.  
Lord Soames announced that  
M Claude Cheysson, the EEC  
Commissioner for aid and  
development, would go to  
Mozambique after his visit to  
Rhodesia.  
President Machel had empha-  
sized his desire for further  
"cooperation" with Britain,  
rather than requesting addi-  
tional economic assistance, Lord  
Soames said. It was hoped that  
the British Government would  
give encouragement to private  
businesses that wanted to invest  
in or trade with Mozambique.  
The Governor said that  
Britain looked forward to a  
more open relationship with  
Mozambique now that the  
Rhodesian problem had been  
settled.  
Children killed: Three children  
were killed and 19 people in-  
jured, some seriously, when a  
hand grenade exploded last  
night in a township on the  
northern edge of Salisbury  
among a crowd of blacks cele-  
brating the recent election  
victory of Mr Robert Mugabe in  
Rhodesia. Police sources be-  
lieved the explosion was ac-  
cidental.—Reuter.

## Westminster requiem for murdered archbishop

By Our Foreign Staff

The Archbishop of West-  
minster is to hold a requiem  
Mass in Westminster Cathedral  
on April 2 for 31st Oscar  
Romero, the Archbishop of San  
Salvador murdered in church.  
The Catholic Institute for Inter-  
national Relations has  
announced.  
Cardinal Hume is president of  
the institute, a voluntary aid  
and development agency with  
numerous projects in Latin  
America.  
The archbishop's death was  
related to "the struggle to  
secure respect for human rights  
of the poor and oppressed in  
Latin America", the institute  
said. The archbishop was  
aware that he was in danger  
and many threats had been  
made on his life.  
The British Council of  
Churches expressed "pain and  
horror at the cruel murder".  
At the House of Commons, Sir  
Keith Joseph, deputising for the  
Prime Minister at question time,  
agreed with Mr David Alton,  
Liberal MP for Liverpool, Edus  
Hill, that MPs would wish to  
express their sorrow at the  
killing. More than 100 MPs had  
nominated the archbishop for  
the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize.  
Vatican response: The Pope,  
when told of the San Salvador  
killing, was "deeply ad-  
mired", a brief announcement  
from the Vatican said. The  
Pope had received the arch-  
bishop in private audience a  
month ago.—UPI.

Leading article, page 17  
Editorial, page 19



A nun mourns for the Archbishop of San Salvador, lying dead  
beside her after being murdered in chapel by armed men.

## Peking is reluctant to buy British arms

Peking, March 25.—A British  
drive to sell weapons to China  
and to take part in its develop-  
ment plans has met with little  
success. British sources said  
today. There were no immedi-  
ate prospects of arms sales, and  
the Chinese response to sug-  
gestions for civil contracts had  
not been encouraging.

During talks here with Mr  
Francis Pym, the Secretary of  
State for Defence, yesterday,  
Chinese officials made it clear  
that they still considered the  
British Harrier jump-jet to be  
too expensive.

China is reported to be  
interested in buying about 60  
of the aircraft and negotiations  
have been going on for more  
than two years.

The sources said China re-  
cently concluded a contract  
with a British shipbuilder for  
two cargo ships, but there was  
no apparent prospect of war-  
ship sales.

According to the sources,  
many British companies had  
overestimated the possibilities  
of trade with China in late 1978.

British industry had indicated  
that it would appreciate "some  
gestures to ease the wait," that  
is, some smaller contracts first,  
but the Chinese response so far  
had not been encouraging,  
according to the sources.

A hint of impatience crept  
into Mr Pym's toast at a  
banquet given in his honour last  
night by Mr Xu Xiangqian, the  
Chinese Defence Minister.

"British industry is keen to  
contribute to the modernization  
of China and so is Her  
Majesty's Government," and  
have put a lot of effort in  
terms of time, money and tech-  
nical exchanges into demon-  
strating how they can help," Mr  
Pym said. "We want to see a  
major expansion in civil trade  
and we have already made  
clear our readiness to supply a  
range of military equipment."

Mr Pym, who arrived last  
Sunday, is scheduled to meet  
Chairman Hua Guofeng to-  
morrow before leaving for  
Shanghai, where he will attend  
the opening of a British aero-  
space exhibition.—Reuter.

## Bus murderer executed

Peking, March 25.—A young  
peasant found guilty of murder-  
ing a bus driver was executed  
here yesterday. Zhang Chouyao  
and three others scuffled on  
the bus in a Peking suburb on  
the night of February 17 and  
stabbed the driver in the back.  
The intermediate People's  
Court of Peking, which sen-  
tenced Zhang to death, also  
sentenced two of his accom-  
plices to 15 years' jail.—  
Agence France-Press.

## Hungary attack on 'laziness'

Budapest, March 25.—Hung-  
ary must step up its campaign  
against lazy workers and lene-  
dness in factories if it is to over-  
come its major economic prob-  
lems, Mr György Lazar, the  
Prime Minister, said today.  
He told the communist party  
congress here that recent eco-  
nomic reforms, which included  
cuts in Government subsidies  
for factories and more competi-  
tive wages, must be implemen-  
ted at all levels of the economy.

## im challenge to Assad rule

## uck troops watch -torn Aleppo

rt Fisk  
ria, March 25  
000 troops of the  
rd Armoured Divi-  
read out across the  
south of Aleppo like  
nth century army,  
sweeping in white  
r the landscape and  
ners fussing over  
ieces as if the old  
north was about to  
resigned history.  
t Assad has ferried  
ldiers up from Ques-  
us of Syria's 1976  
Lebanon—to assert  
of central govern-  
id Aleppo.  
rows of T34 and T62  
ide the Damascus  
eak louder than any  
President's recent  
even though they  
read a shot.  
ing and arson in  
ond largest city was  
o ignore; yet, para-  
s was also too serious  
s with the ruthless-  
resident Assad might  
ad at other times.  
adequate enough  
his in Aleppo itself,  
a soldier can be seen  
ers and where Presi-  
d's torn and defaced  
ang from the walls.  
illar if claustrophobic  
f armed plainclothes  
en has disappeared.  
sixteenth century  
teffly occupied by the  
r week, has been  
and the broken  
ramparts which stand  
nt, smashed denture  
city are deserted.  
visited the office of  
nor, you would not  
t the Aleppo souk  
closed down for two  
t the Muslim brother-  
printed tracts demand-  
struction of President  
overnment, or that as  
60 men and women  
dead in just two days

replies. "People came from the  
mosque and were led like sheep  
by people from outside the  
country."  
Exactly who did inspire the  
closure of the bazaar and the  
rioting in Aleppo is still an  
intriguing question. His almost  
casual reference to the mosque  
is the only mention Mr Al-Qadi  
makes to the religious enthu-  
siasm of the Muslim Brother-  
hood, whose ghostly but  
painfully real existence haunts  
President Assad's regime.  
That the Brothers exist is  
without doubt. Their pam-  
phlets, printed on sugar-grained  
paper, have been pasted up in  
Aleppo. They call for the over-  
throw of the Assad Govern-  
ment, specifically demanding  
the destruction of the  
"Alawite" authorities.

## Leaflets' demands being negotiated

Broadsheets apparently  
printed by a splinter group of  
Syria's Communist Party also  
condemn the Assad Govern-  
ment but they omit any refer-  
ence to the minority Alawite  
sect of which the President is  
a member.  
More substantial are the  
leaflets being circulated in the  
city by a group calling itself  
"the organization of Ulema"  
(religious leaders) of Aleppo  
and listing the following  
specific if occasionally specu-  
lous demands:  
1. All future state legislation  
should conform to Koranic law.  
2. The state of emergency in  
Syria should be ended.  
3. All "armed elements"  
should withdraw from Aleppo.  
4. All detainees should be  
released.  
5. All university teachers dis-  
missed from their posts for  
political reasons should be  
reinstated.  
6. All "misleading propa-  
ganda" should be ended.  
7. There should be "complete  
freedom" in Syria.  
These demands seem to have  
formed the basis for negotia-  
tions which have been going  
on in Aleppo for the past four  
days between a Baathist dele-  
gation led by Mr Abdullah  
al-Ahmar, the party's deputy  
secretary-general, and a group  
of lawyers, doctors, engineers  
and academics in Aleppo.  
Mr Al-Qadi says that the  
party men spoke to "every-  
one" in the city and there is  
a suspicion that this comfort-  
able euphemism includes rep-  
resentatives of the Muslim  
Brotherhood.  
Certainly, the third demand  
has been met; the only sol-  
diers visible in Aleppo are  
guarding a military office—the  
sixth received from President  
Assad himself two days ago,  
when he told a sports congress  
in Damascus that not all Mus-  
lim brothers were traitors to  
Syria.  
It was, in retrospect, a re-  
markable gesture for the Presi-  
dent to have made and it is  
being interpreted in Aleppo as  
either a sign of political toler-  
ance or of weakness. No one  
has missed the significance of  
the words "God is great" with  
which Mr Assad now begins  
his speeches.



# This is the way to get straight down to business

Travelling the country is so often  
what business is all about. And the best  
way to get straight down to business is  
Inter-City. Inter-City takes you from city  
centre to city centre—fast.

Taking a train makes even more  
sense at this time of year when driving  
long distances is more than usually  
hazardous. And with Godfrey Davis Rail  
Drive at over 70 stations you can arrange

to have a car waiting at your destination.

Many Inter-City trains have full  
air-conditioning, with adjustable seats.  
You can spread out your papers on an  
expanse of desk, sit back and mull over a  
business idea or just relax and enjoy the  
journey.

Inter-City offers speed, style, safety  
and comfort. You'll enjoy doing business  
with us.



Inter-City

Have a good trip!

## ui ban on ant killing

March 25.—Pouchers,  
ughter an estimated  
sprants a year in the  
Africa Republic, face  
african sentences under  
just introduced to try  
et the specter in the  
ling of elephants in the  
has been banned, along  
collection, commer-  
in, import, export and  
of ivory.

## Strike by crews of icebreakers

Helsinki, March 25.—The  
crews of Finland's 10 ice-  
breakers went on strike today  
after their demands for more  
pay were turned down by the  
Maritime Board.  
The Seamen's Union said the  
icebreakers would assist all  
ships about to enter or leave  
ports, but that cargo ships  
and car ferries must try to  
break the ice themselves.—AP.



## OVERSEAS

## MPs in walk-out over Assam blockade by pro-Congress students

From Richard Wigg  
Delhi, March 25

The two-day-old agitation by pro-Congress students in West Bengal seeking to impose a complete economic blockade on the isolated north-eastern state of Assam led to a walk-out by all the Opposition parties in the Indian Parliament today.

Mr Bal Ram, the Lok Sabha (Lower House) Speaker, refused to allow an adjournment motion as demanded by the three principal opposition parties—the Janata, the Lok Dal, and the Marxist Communists (who are in power in Bengal).

All of them protested, as one of their leaders put it, against a section of Mrs Indira Gandhi's ruling Congress party "organizing a confrontation between the people of one state by another."

Twenty minutes of pandemonium ensued but the Speaker refused to give way. Opposition spokesmen accused Mrs Gandhi's Government of not taking prompt action against the students, even though urgent national issues were involved. One independent MP pointedly asked whether the Prime Minister was losing control over her party to Mr Sanjay Gandhi's Youth Congress, which is very close to the organizers of the West Bengal students.

As the movement of essential commodities in lorries and by rail continued to be obstructed by the students at three entry points on West Bengal's narrow strip of territory linked to Assam, police made several charges against the demonstra-

tors sitting on the national highway and the main railway line near Bagdogra and Siliguri townships.

More than 50 arrests were made, including the leader of the Bengal student agitators. Today, about a thousand tea workers joined the students sitting on the main road. Local markets were deserted.

Mrs Gandhi's slowness in moving against the pro-Congress students was also criticized in the Indian Upper House today, where the Opposition is still in a majority.

In an editorial on the agitation entitled "This must stop," *The Statesman* of Calcutta today advised Mrs Gandhi that she should "bring her supposed supporters promptly and effectively to heel."

The Bengal students' agitation is ostensibly intended to turn the tables on Assamese students who, for the past six months, have been agitating against the influx of non-Assamese settlers.

Their agitation is due to resume tomorrow with a 12-hour general strike called throughout the state.

Mr L. P. Singh, the Governor of Assam, held talks on the crisis today in Gauhati with two senior officials from Delhi's Home Ministry. It is the running of the far-flung north-east's affairs by entrenched bureaucrats in Delhi which has become one of the principal elements in Assam's regionalist agitation. Assam has been under direct presidential rule since late last year.

Politicians settle on phrasing of independence referendum for French-speaking province

## The Quebec question in 109 words

From Anne Penketh  
Montreal, March 25

The debate in the Quebec Legislature on the wording of an independence referendum has ended with the adoption of the Government's motion and one slight amendment—proposed by the former leader of the Union Nationale party, Mr Rodrigue Biron—strengthening the promise of a second referendum.

Three other amendments—proposed by Mr Claude Ryan, leader of the Liberal opposition, Mr Michel Le Moignan, interim leader of the Union Nationale, and Mr Rodrigue Tremblay, a former Parti Québécois Minister now an independent MP—were defeated.

The Government's motion was adopted last Thursday by 68 votes to 37. The referendum question will therefore read:

"The Government of Quebec has made public its proposal to negotiate a new agreement with the rest of Canada based on the equality of nations. The agreement would enable Quebec to acquire the exclusive power to make its laws, levy its taxes, and establish relations abroad—in other words, sovereignty—and at the same time to maintain with Canada an economic association, including a common currency; no change in political status resulting from these negotiations will be effected without approval by the people through another referendum; on these terms, do you give the Government of Quebec the mandate to negotiate the proposed agreement between Quebec and Canada? Yes... No..."

What would happen to hundreds of existing federal Crown corporations, including Canadian National Railways, Air Canada and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation? Mr Parizeau replied that some would be shut, some reorganized, and others, such as Air Canada, would be run as joint ventures with the rest of Canada.

Mr Ryan asked what would happen to the freedom of circulation of capital if the Government insisted on Quebec's control of financial institutions.

Mr Parizeau said an independent Quebec would simply adopt federal legislation, changing it to read "Quebec" rather than "Canada." This would mean that Canadian chartered banks or trust companies operating in Quebec would have to be controlled by Quebecers.

Mr Ryan wondered how an independent Quebec, with a smaller tax base, could keep up the services now provided by the federal and provincial Governments. Mr Parizeau replied that independent Quebec would do away with overlapping jurisdictions which were extremely costly. "Everything is being done twice by Quebec and Ottawa," he said.

On Thursday each Parti Québécois speaker addressed a different sector of the community, urging a "yes" vote in the 109-word referendum. The Minister of Agriculture appealed to the fishermen and agricultural workers; the Minister for the Status of Women to women voters; Mr Guy Chevrette to the workers and trade unionists; and Mr Claude Shacrier to the elderly.

The Liberal victory: The Liberal Government of Mr Pierre Trudeau has increased its parliamentary majority in Ottawa to 12 by winning a deferred election in the Quebec constituency of Frontenac.

The Liberal victory gave the party 147 seats in the 282-seat House of Commons here, against 103 for the Progressive Conservatives led by Mr Joe Clark, the former Prime Minister and 32 for the left-leaning New Democratic Party.

The Frontenac election was postponed until yesterday after a candidate died shortly before the national elections of February 18 in Canada.

Among candidates defeated yesterday was Mr Fabrice Roy, leader of the Social Credit Party, which now has no members in Parliament.—Reuter.

President Binaisa of Uganda is reported to be pressing for a Commonwealth peace-keeping force to serve in the country after the withdrawal of the 20,000 Tanzanian troops, who have been in Uganda since overthrowing the former President Idi Amin.

Tanzania is withdrawing half the force now and the rest are expected to follow within a few months. Despite Tanzanian and Ugandan statements that the withdrawal is in line with the defence agreement between the two countries there is no doubt that President Binaisa would have liked more time to build up his own army.

There has been no official admission by the Uganda Government of a request to Commonwealth countries. But diplomatic sources say that tentative approaches have been made to some countries including Britain and Nigeria.

President Binaisa evaded questions on the subject when he visited Kenya recently for private talks with President Moi, but it is assumed here that he asked Kenya for an assurance of military support.

Kenya is thought to have stopped short of any direct offer of troops, but to have assured President Binaisa of support once the Tanzanian troops leave. Relations between Kenya and Tanzania are strained, and Kenya would not send troops to Uganda while Tanzanian troops are there.

But Kenya would be likely to support a Commonwealth force, and even to take part in it, if this would not raise political problems with Tanzania.

President Binaisa is apparently apprehensive about leaving his country's internal security in the hands of the small and inexperienced Uganda Army. His police force is well below strength, and the Tanzanian Army is his main assurance against an advancing force. President Binaisa's approaches for a Commonwealth force appear to have been made without the approval of his interim Parliament, where he has many opponents. There is no indication here that Britain is anxious to support his proposal, although the weakness of his position is realized by Whitehall.

President Binaisa today confirmed that Uganda's first election since 1962 will probably be held later this year—six months earlier than had been proposed—and that leaders of the Uganda National Liberation Front are opposed to a UNLF of rival political parties.

He also added that the branch leaders in Kampala, on the first anniversary of the formation of the group by exiled Ugandans at a meeting in Moshi, northern Tanzania, shortly before the overthrow of President Amin, he said, the merging of numerous political parties and groups into the Front was final. "The UNLF does not believe in divorce."

In an obvious reference to a recent statement by President Obote who was ousted by President Amin in 1971, that he would return to Uganda to lead his Uganda People's Congress in the election, President Binaisa said that any Ugandan wishing to stand as a candidate must first be accepted by the Front as a voter. Registration would probably start in May or June.

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## Commonwealth force sought for Uganda

From Charles Harrison  
Nairobi, March 25

President Binaisa of Uganda is reported to be pressing for a Commonwealth peace-keeping force to serve in the country after the withdrawal of the 20,000 Tanzanian troops, who have been in Uganda since overthrowing the former President Idi Amin.

Tanzania is withdrawing half the force now and the rest are expected to follow within a few months. Despite Tanzanian and Ugandan statements that the withdrawal is in line with the defence agreement between the two countries there is no doubt that President Binaisa would have liked more time to build up his own army.

There has been no official admission by the Uganda Government of a request to Commonwealth countries. But diplomatic sources say that tentative approaches have been made to some countries including Britain and Nigeria.

President Binaisa evaded questions on the subject when he visited Kenya recently for private talks with President Moi, but it is assumed here that he asked Kenya for an assurance of military support.

Kenya is thought to have stopped short of any direct offer of troops, but to have assured President Binaisa of support once the Tanzanian troops leave. Relations between Kenya and Tanzania are strained, and Kenya would not send troops to Uganda while Tanzanian troops are there.

But Kenya would be likely to support a Commonwealth force, and even to take part in it, if this would not raise political problems with Tanzania.

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## Thais 'voluntarily' repatriated of refugees

From Neil Kell  
Bangkok, March 25

Officials of the Nations High Commission for Refugees are a definition of the 175,000 Kampuchean in Thailand.

Informed sources say it is not apparent change policy on re Nations officials about voluntary repatriation carried out by the centre for refugees in Bangkok, eight Kampuchean will not come.

They have no informed of it Kampuchean have gone to the border to the Thai.

The movement takes place at a number of points but these are not those returning other than voluntarily.

Because the moved out in a not adequately of people leaving their own country, food, seed and more food and.

That authority Dang say that going on but do it is being done say camp leaders of people to the border above of the camp.

Some camp leaders say the under pressure that the army officials should facilities to the refugees in staying in Thailand to Kampuchean two are all but are told, they recover the best of the camp.

That is a camp with growing in camp, is per se.

Most of those believed to be of soldiers and the control of former Prime Minister Pol Pot, a widely regarded moderate and b. the non-communism opposing the V.

The new Thai has said officials no change in the deep policy for the border in fact arrivals from Khao-I-Dang and centres are no them and they come no further campments at border.

Every day son reach Khao-I-Dang returned to the which are an assault by Viet Khmer Rouge in border warlords their authority.

Officials said cent of the elected and gave endorsement in candidates. The Communist United Front.

Both figures in the previous election in 1976. The said the roles had been called for a boy election.

Results from region showed a turnout there the regions.—Reuter.

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# OPEC, unemployment, Détente and World War III?

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## Threat stops Pinochet Manila visit

Manila, March 25.—The Philippines said today it had called off an official visit by President Augusto Pinochet of Chile because "foreign terrorists" had entered the country with the intention of killing him. Chile yesterday broke off diplomatic relations with the Philippines.

President Pinochet, who took the cancellation of his visit as an insult, told cheering crowds in Santiago yesterday of his decision to sever relations.

"I can't accept that my country be slapped in the face," he said. General Pinochet also had trouble in Suva, Fiji, where demonstrators' petrol bombs set Carlos Romulo, the Philippines Foreign Minister, on fire.

He refused to give their nationality, but said that four more were still being hunted by the Philippines military. Mr Romulo said the eight terrorists were arrested on Sunday in Manila on the eve of the arrival of President Pinochet and his 70-man delegation.—Reuter and Agence France-Press.

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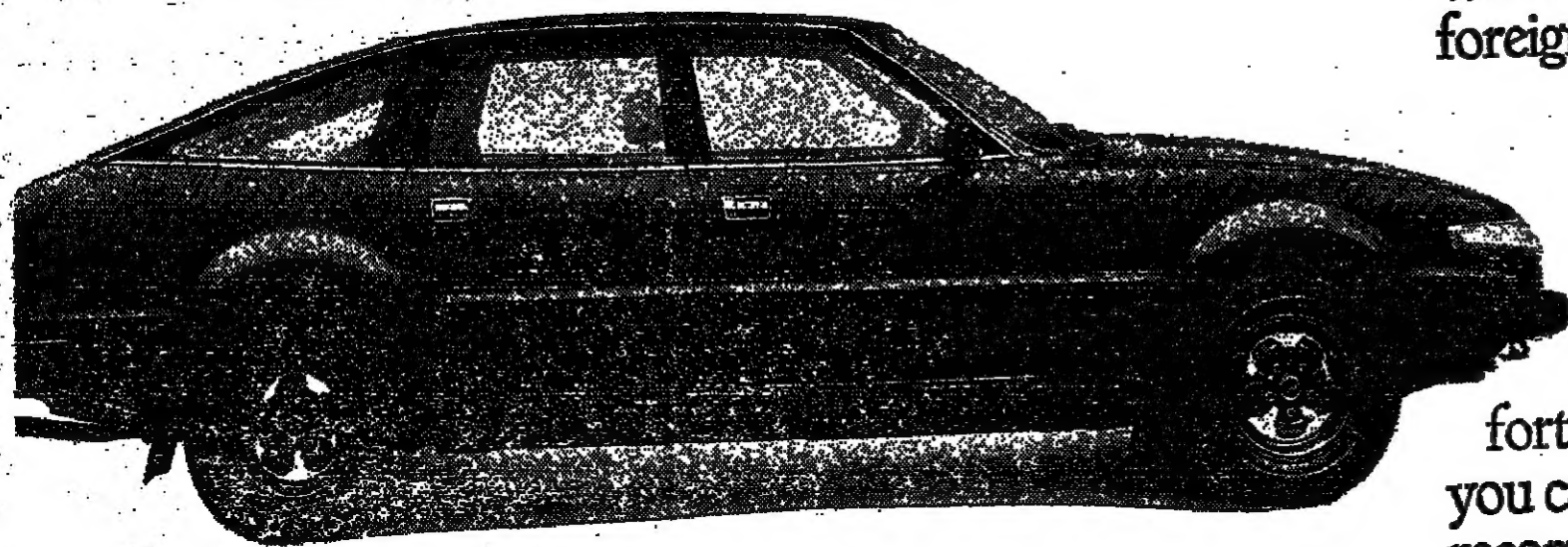
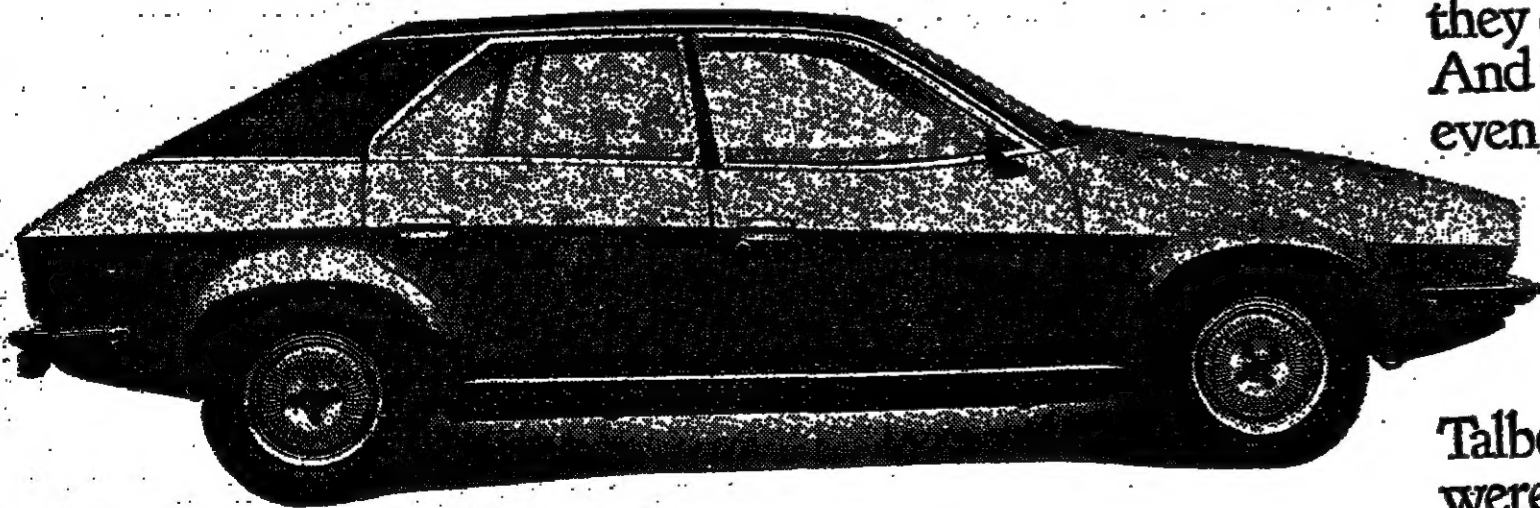
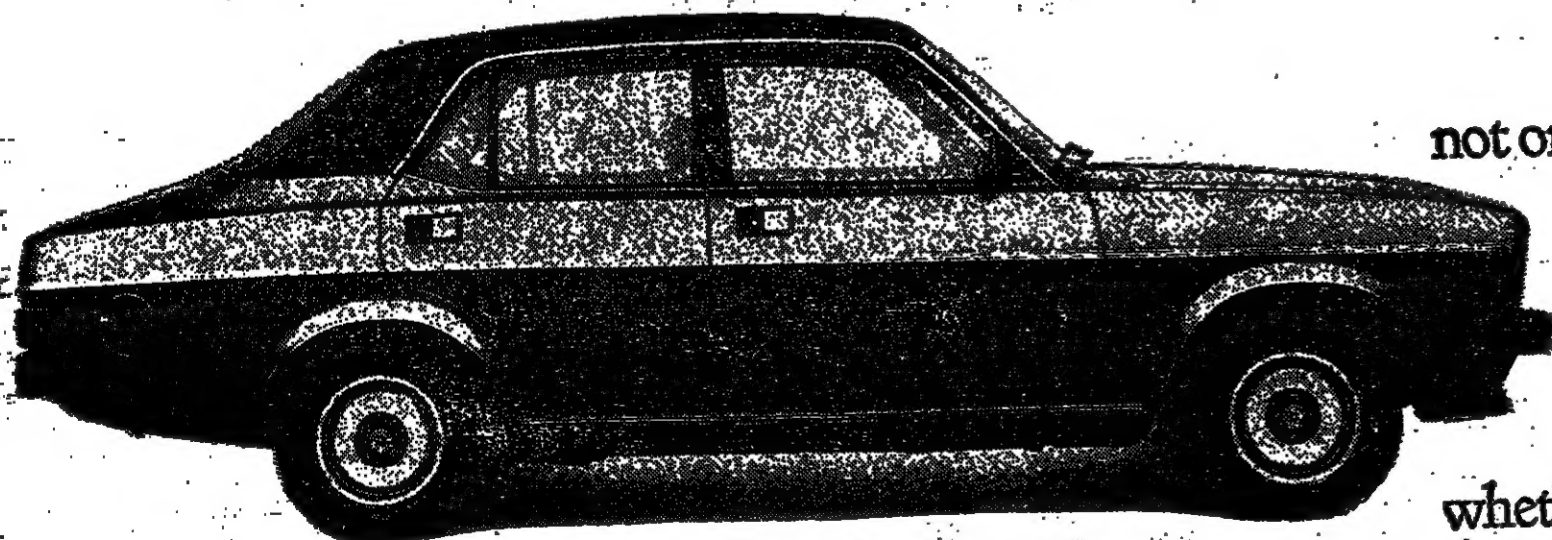
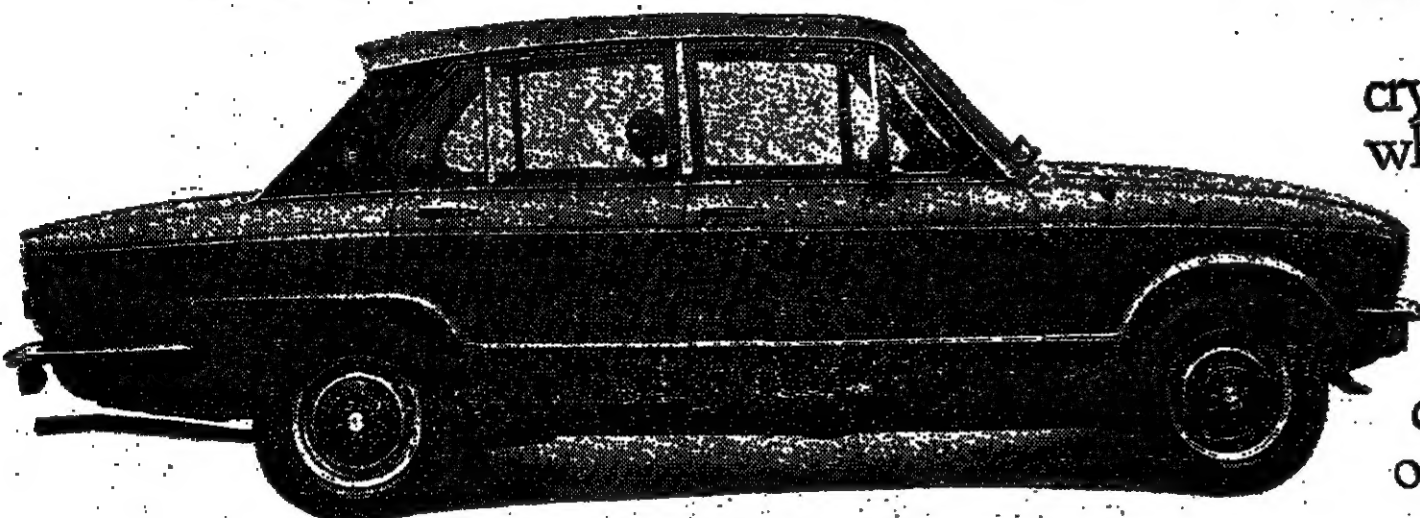
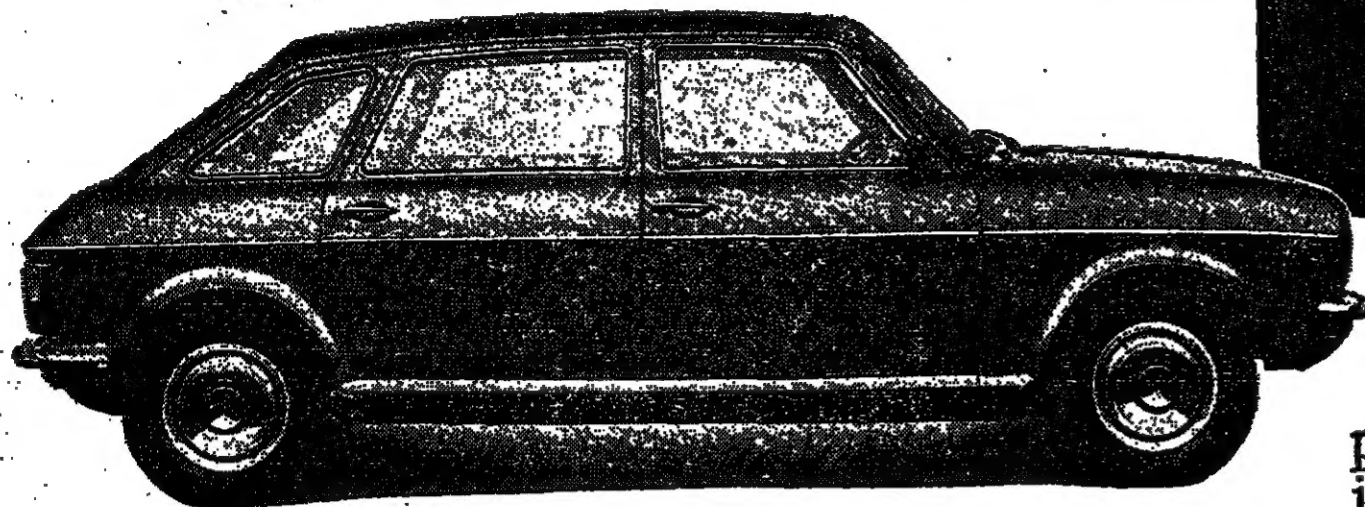
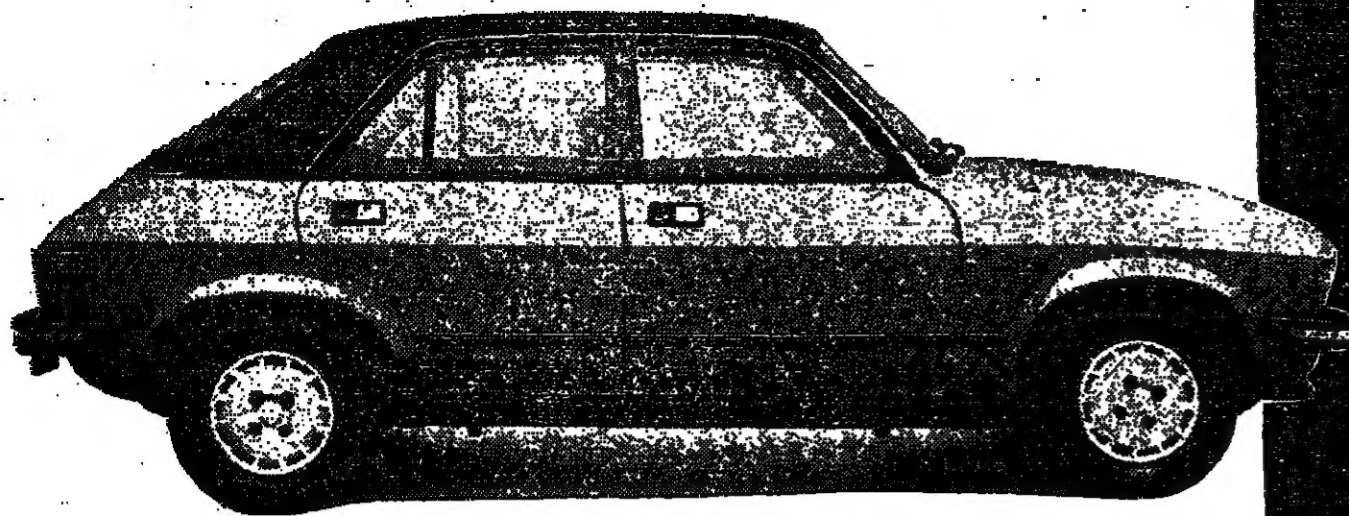
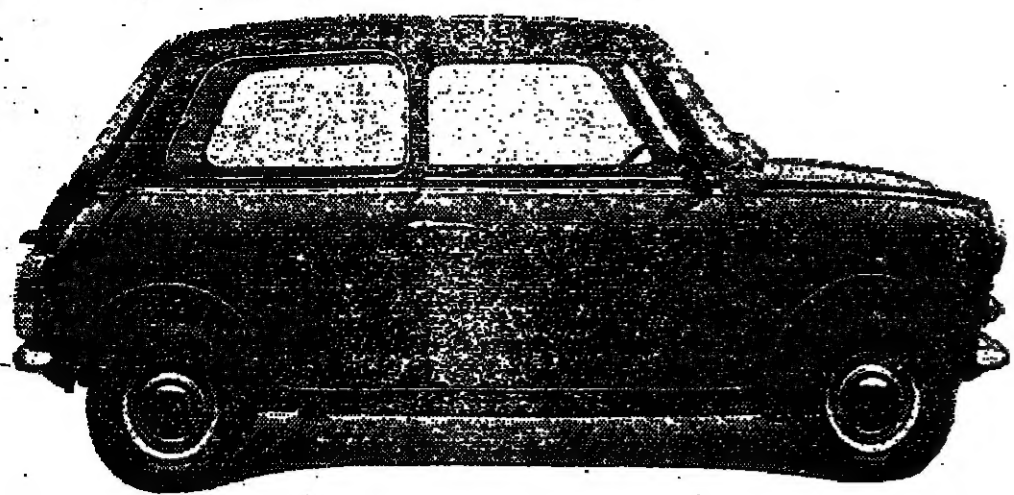
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£11,150



# BL CARS ARE CHEAPER TO RUN, WHATEVER SIR GEOFFREY SAYS.

The cost of running a car could change quite dramatically when Sir Geoffrey Howe unveils the Budget today. For example, increased petrol costs, V.A.T., road tax, purchase tax and import surcharges (on foreign cars) would all increase the cost of motoring.

But if you're buying a new car, you don't need a crystal ball to tell you which range of cars will run out cheaper, whatever Sir Geoffrey announces.

The BL range of British cars.

## LOW RUNNING COSTS.

Compare these British cars with their foreign-made competitors and BL cars almost certainly give you the edge on running costs.

## LOW COST PARTS.

Because they're British, spare parts for BL cars are not only more readily available.

They're also cheaper.

## LOW COST INSURANCE.

Insurance too, is generally cheaper for BL cars compared to foreign makes.

However you compare BL's flag carriers for Britain, whether it be on running costs, performance, or comfort, they come through with flying colours.

And the number of 'extras' we fit as standard makes BL cars even harder to match.

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Fact 1. BL is the only major car manufacturer that is wholly British owned.

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See your BL dealer for a test-drive today. You'll probably never see **IT PAYS TO BUY BRITISH** such low prices on BL's great British cars again.





Rosemary Brown examines the way five families balance their books

## How will the Budget affect your spending power?

After today's Budget, will you be feeling richer or poorer? And either way, do you know what you plan to do about it? If you are forced to economise, have you some idea where the savings could come? Alternatively, if the Chancellor leaves you with extra money, are you at risk of frittering it or have you isolated a specific priority?

As you sit down this evening to assess what effect the Budget will have on your standard of living, it could be a timely moment to work out just how and where your income is disappearing.

With the duty on alcohol widely

clipped to increase, do you know for example the total amount (including trips to the pub) you spend annually on drink? Or taking weekend outings, visiting friends and other incidental journeys into account, how much travelling really costs you? What about entertainment? Presents? Or the multiple "extras" incurred by the children: school trips, swimming, pocket money and so on?

We investigated in detail with five households how they budgeted and tried to ascertain with them how their economic situation today compares with a couple of years ago.

Only one family knew down to their last £100 precisely what they were spending on their different needs and activities, although the retired couple we spoke to also had a pretty shrewd idea of just what their pension was buying—and they were alone in never dipping into overdrafts.

Four out of five admitted that doing the sums with us made them realise how comparatively extravagant they were about certain items and said that, much as they would dislike it, if essential they could see areas for cuts. Other than our bachelor girl however, all were—or had been—making economies; and

top of the sacrifice list were clothes and holidays.

Although two of the three families were (or were about to be) educating at least one child privately, and one mother had fairly regular domestic help, none were in the "an pair" stakes or had children at public school.

With assistance from Reward Regional Surveys, we estimate that without a private income, a scholarship or help from grandparents, it would be virtually impossible for a couple to maintain anything like their normal lifestyle and send two children to boarding school on net

earnings of less than £15,000. And most of the couples we questioned in this bracket said that, regardless of the tax cuts, both parents would be expected to make more money, less entertaining and more DIY had become the order of the day.

Most prized business perk was unquestionably the company car; and certainly for middle income families, the biggest relief would be a reduction in mortgage interest rates. It was significant, however, that no one was expecting a rosy Budget or anticipating any additional spending power. Like you and our panel below, I'll be doing the arithmetic tonight.

Net Annual Income	£7,570
Expenses	
Mortgage	£1,208
Rates	£407
Gas, Electricity	£360
Insurance	£280
Telephone, TV, HP	£310
All petrol, upkeep of Mini	£628
Boys' pocket money	£150
Parents' personal spending	£520
Newspapers	£52
Housekeeping	£2,080
Fishing, swimming	£145
Meals out, etc	£130
Presents	£200
Additional on house/garden (1979)	£450
School uniform account	£120
Misc incl vet, cleaners, credit card interest	£110
Child benefit savings	£416
Total	£7,566

A holiday costing £600 will come partly from savings on decorating, partly from child benefit money.

David, Jenny and their son, 15, and Richard, 12, are spending a fortune on a house this summer. Two years ago, it would have been impossible. They were overdrawn and ruthlessly cut all non-essentials: clothes, entertainment, even the heating.

But a substantial rise and profit-sharing bonus have increased David's net salary to £5,750. With child benefit and Jenny's part-time earnings as an auxiliary nurse they now have an income of £7,570. David, a marketing executive, gets BUPA cover and a company car.

Their budgeting system sounds deceptively simple: £40 a week housekeeping out of which Jenny pays all food, drink, clothes (except school uniforms), cleaning products and miscellaneous small items; £5 personal spending money each; child benefit is substantially saved; most of it will probably go towards the holiday this year. David pays all other bills.

Mortgage interest for a five-room house on a pleasant estate and linked endowment policy accounts annually for £1,208; rates, £407; gas and electricity, £360. Subtract other basics—telephone (£70), life insurance (£280), TV rental (£150) and

BP (£90)—and they are left with about £2,000.

Despite the fact the boys walk to school and take sandwiches, that Jenny is a family machine and does all the laundry at home, that they virtually never go to the cinema, do not smoke and no longer require a baby-sitter, it is amazing how many expenses seem to remain.

There is petrol for travel to work, newspapers, cleaning bills, credit card interest, pocket money for the children and hormone pills for the cat. Presents cost £200 a year.

A major relief, compared with most of their friends, is that their mortgage which they have had 10 years is now comparatively small. This enables David to indulge his love of fishing, for them to eat out most months, go to a few dinner-dances, give a party every year—"we always did that, even at our brokest," says Jenny—and entertain friends to dinner occasionally.

They also swim a lot and Jenny has a beach-old Mini. Not that she uses it much but "it is a sort of insurance policy" in case David ever lost his job and with it his company car.

The budget? "I'd like to see the standard rate of tax come down," thought I don't think it will," says David.

Hugh and Louise are the first to agree that their budgeting is a bit hit and miss. Last year they reckoned to have about £9,500 to spend: £7,164 was Hugh's net salary as a publicity manager; £1,200 derived from Louise's home-based public relations company and small royalties; the remainder—a summer paying guest, selling some furniture, £200 building society interest and child benefit for their three daughters (15, 13 and 6).

Hugh has a company car and some paid business lunches. Louise runs a second car and domestic/business telephone entirely off her company. They invariably have a fluctuating overdraft. Hugh's gross salary has just increased by £1,700 to £11,500.

The biggest burden is the mortgage which, with linked policy on a seven-year house in Surrey, costs £350 a month. Two of the girls, the youngest and eldest, go to independent schools—though happily relations pay for Diana's boarding fees and uniforms. Luxuries include: a daily help during school hours, a babysitter about twice a month and £100 at the hairdresser for Louise.

However, she "virtually never" buys clothes; they economize on holidays (this year they are staying at home) and hawkishly watch the food bills. It is easier said than done, as they give a dinner party about once a month, have friends stay and often invite others

in for coffee and bridge. Although they are given quite a lot to drink—family presents and guests—Hugh estimates it still costs £150 a year.

Louise has £310 monthly housekeeping, from which she pays for food and domestic sundries, electricity, gas cylinders, newspapers, children's clothes, her personal expenses, vet's bill (they have a dog and cat), the paid help plus, if and when she can afford it, shrubs for the garden and some of the drink.

Hugh's extra worries are the lion's share of the heating, rates, life insurance, the "frightening" petrol bill for his car, debt repayment of £65 a month on a business venture that went wrong, piano and riding lessons for the girls, lunches, occasional "musts" like the mover he recently bought and any labour needed around the house, as he is handicapped and cannot do it himself (last year they spent £500 on an extension).

As an executive of 47, Hugh's clothes matter, which means another £13 monthly into a subscription account. Additionally, there are the many extras: presents, books (a family indulgence), £30 for a contract gardener, Diana's train fares to school and Joanna's school fees, for which in desperation Louise has just drawn £200 from the company.

Inflation? "Our overdrafts will just have to go up," says Hugh, "unless the Chancellor does something about mortgages."

Net Annual Income	£9,800
Approximate Expenditure	
Mortgage and linked policy	£4,200
Housekeeping: food, some fuel, papers, daily help, most clothes, vet and misc	£3,270
Rates	£360
Heating	£420
School fees	£600
Petrol, other travelling	£610
Life insurance	£200
Debt and overdraft interest	£250
Piano, riding, pocket money	£285
Hugh's clothes	£156
Total	£11,401

School and Hugh's lunches, some drink, presents, large purchases for the house and other items not budgeted—which Hugh's rise cannot possibly meet.

daily. "36p, shocking isn't it? But we manage."

They manage, in fact, extremely well. Everything is spotless: windows are cleaned every three weeks ("have to on the ground floor in London") and clothes go regularly to the laundrette and cleaners. Mary likes wearing make-up, they both have a monthly haircut and even after paying all the outgoing on the flat—£10 rent plus £2 each for gas and electricity, which goes weekly into a fuel savings plan—they still always ensure that their five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren receive a present at Christmas. "It's the blooming postage," grumbled George. "That's something we've really noticed."

Any other routine expenses or occasional luxuries? Rearing batteries, TV rental, essential clothes... it does not leave much; but they enjoyed a duck and drop of brandy at Christmas and recently bought some new chair covers.

"I wouldn't say we were worse off than a couple of years ago reflected George, "but what I'd like to see in the Budget is a £50 pension for a married couple and no messing about with supplementary."

Celia frankly admits that she is an impulsive spender, a bad saver and very extravagant. She is single, aged 28, works as a photographic studio assistant and lives in a two-room furnished flat in London. She earns £5,250 (net £315 a month) and also receives 30p, lunch on weekdays. She recently had a big rise so is feeling prosperous, but says that even so she is invariably overdrawn.

Most of her money goes on pleasure. Her typical week reads: dining in a restaurant at least one evening, frequently two (£15?); two or three films, plays or jazz concerts (£10); entertaining friends most weekends plus an occasional supper. Additionally, she is attending a bird observation course, has just started driving lessons and goes to a couple of dinner parties a month when she usually takes a bottle of wine.

Celia was a bit startled when working out her weekly expenditure on drink: a bottle of whisky, the odd bottle of plonk, a few rounds at the pub—it mounts up. So too, in a mysterious way, do bills on clothes. Thirty pounds, £40 a month? If she spots "a lovely bar-

Net Annual Income	£11,800
Expenses	
Mortgage and linked policy	£4,140
Rates	£360
Basic housekeeping	£2,424
Heating, etc	£260
Telephone, papers	£225
School lunches	£108
Insurance	£355
Tobacco	£442
All entertainment	£730
Jane's extra spending money	£400
Presents	£460
Holidays (last year £800-£900)	£95
Pocket money	£78
1979 Purchases for house/garden, est	£1,000
Misc incl clothes, drink est	£1,000
Total	£12,667

In September, education costs including lunches/fares will increase by about £1,125.

A net income of about £11,800, a company Jaguar on which all petrol bills are paid plus a business entertaining allowance sounds to most people like riches. But if, as Jane and Martin, you have just bought an eight-room house and are due to start paying school fees, budgeting suddenly means planning.

Both are 36. Martin is managing director of a computer company and last year his gross earnings including bonus were £13,500. Additionally, he received the odd cheque from speaking engagements, Jane made £400 from freelance clerical work and they got child benefit for their three children (aged 11, eight and four).

Other than feeding the Labrador, Jane's housekeeping (£150 a month plus child benefit) is simply for food and cleaning products; it is the standard bills (rates, heating, TV rental, newspapers, school lunches, whatever is required for the garden), basically gives Jane what she needs for her and the children's clothes and apportioned the rest to entertainment, holidays (£800-£900 staying in Cornwall), her own expenses, presents (£460), drink and miscellaneous purchases such as the freezer.

Both smoke (£5.30 a week) and both are active. Martin plays snooker at the pub most

days, does the football pools, goes to rugby matches with his elder son and as a family they swim and occasionally camp. They frequently take the children to the local theatre, eat out about once a month (more if you count business entertaining and computer dinner dances) and usually have friends to stay every other week.

Although they do all their own decorating, drink few spirits, are lucky to have parents who babysit and Jane knits everyone's sweaters, for the past few years they have not thought very much about money—at least not to the extent of disciplining their spending. But now, with hugely increased mortgage repayments—£270 a month compared with £68 previously plus a new endowment-linked policy of £75—not to mention bigger heating costs, everyday life has become substantially more expensive.

The scholarship which they were hoping for would have helped. Cathy, the 11-year-old school leaver, whatever is required for the garden), basically gives Jane what she needs for her and the children's clothes and apportioned the rest to entertainment, holidays (£800-£900 staying in Cornwall), her own expenses, presents (£460), drink and miscellaneous purchases such as the freezer.

Both smoke (£5.30 a week) and both are active. Martin plays snooker at the pub most

Net Monthly Income	£315
Approximate Expenditure	
Rent	£85
Gas, etc	£20
Supermarket	£40
London travel	£40
Driving lessons	£28
Entertainment	£80
Clothes, etc	£30
Misc	£20
Total	£323

Already overdrawn. Additional expenditure: train fares, lunches, presents, books and other misc.

It could be more; Celia has a credit card which she uses to buy clothes, presents or something for the flat. Equally, it could be records or books ("I buy heaps of paperbacks") or "a special offer" on her favourite cosmetics.

Other incidents include hair-dresser every two months (£11); stamps, cigarettes, laundrette (£1 each a week), lunches, television licence plus assorted travelling costs: season ticket, fare home to the West Country, railway three months (£35 return) plus the car, country—and taxi she wailed.

Celia says her dizzy life is possible only because she has two big economies: holidays last year, a week on a canal with a group of friends (£30); and "a lovely flat that's comparatively very cheap" £65 a month plus about £20 for telephone, gas and electricity. Also, because they entertain together, her boy friend often pays the supermarket bill; but, as Celia loves to cook, basic shopping still costs about £10 a week.

Her budget hopes? "Nothing from Sir Geoffrey. But perhaps I ought to start budgeting: go out less and save £50 a month. I could take up knitting..."

## Children's Books

## Every picture sells a story

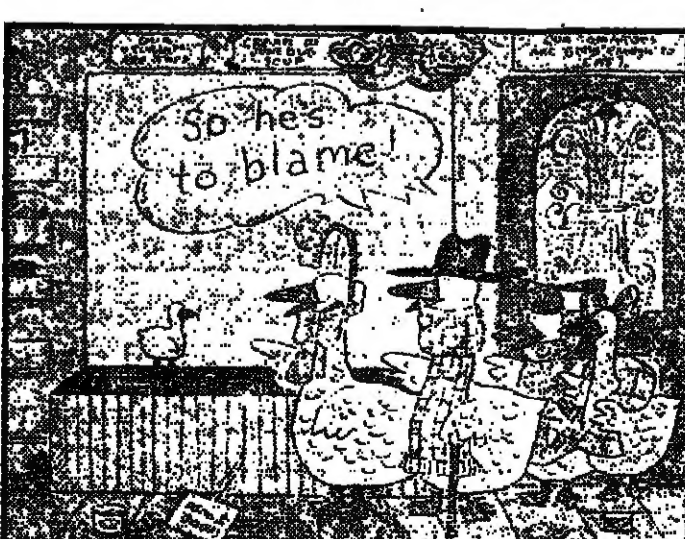
Earlier this month *The Times*, in conjunction with Penguin Books, announced a competition to encourage new talent in the making of picture books. Called before a court of critics and librarians, however, *The Times* and Penguin Books might not find it altogether easy to justify so liberal an act. After all, it might be said there were more than 300 picture books published in 1979 and the best sort of competition would be one that encouraged people to stop producing the things rather than to produce more.

At first glance this argument

has some appeal, but, looking more keenly at those 300-odd gleaming volumes, I am less certain. Most of them are, as you might expect, professional examples of book production. Their creators take full advantage of the flexibility in design and the whirling of colour allowed by photolithographic printing. But when it comes to "newness" in the sense that they have something fresh to say, and when it comes to "talent" in the sense that they understand the inner coherence which picture books call for, then we seem to live in a time of dearth.

There are several, broadly economic, reasons for the polished and not-so-polished inadequacy of these books. At an individual level, for instance, there is considerable pressure on a freelance picture-book illustrator, once he has found a successful formula, to go on repeating it—and a quantity of books last year by once-celebrated illustrators had all the characteristics of old confections newly labelled to keep up the annual royalties. Only geniuses like Randolph Caldecott could work to such a routine without losing their individual touch.

More generally, illustrators and publishers experience a variety of other pressures which currently seem to be fostering two mutually exclusive types of



James Marshall and the comic tradition in MacGoon's Grocery by Frank Asch (Kestrel £1.95).

picture book. On the one hand there is a growing number of "socially-committed" books—designed to help children to adjust to the norms that the adult manufacturers think most suitable—and these, by and large, carry illustrations which are as ham-fisted as their "message".

On the other hand there is the panoply of elaborate coloured folios, emanating from such places as Milan and Munich, which are the product of co-publishing agreements that provide a comparatively cheap way of issuing what look like expensive books. The fact that the art-work is apparently done with galleries more in mind than books, and that the texts

are contrived, and often badly translated, is of less significance than the reduction of the production (Needless to say, the fashion has affected British artists, too. Apart from its exploitation of the gimmick of the treasure-hunt, Kit Williams's *Maskerade* is also notable as an anthology of the painterly tricks that have long been the preserve of Continental illustrators.)

Among so much that is didactic or sophisticated it is a pleasure to discover a few books that 1979 has brought to us. There is Frank Asch's *MacGoon's Grocery* illustrated by James Marshall (Kestrel £1.95), whose plain line-and-wash drawings fit perfectly into the comic simplicity of the tale.

And there are three little books—all more than 50 years old—which have doubtless been brought out of attics or trunks under the influence of an Edwardian lady. Rose Isabella Stark's *Alpha* (Penguin £2.95), John Lockwood Kipling's *ABC* (Macmillan £4.95) and "Alice and Angela's" *Story of the Little Round Man* (Warne £2.50) are all created

to entertain individual children. What they lack in smooth Teutonic paintwork they make up in a hundredfold in warmth and in the play of visual ideas, and they offer some reassurance about the traditional strengths of the picture book.

When *The Times/Penguin* judges call for submissions that "show care and imagination in their use of words, and illustrations which consistently match the nature and subject matter of the story", they are asking for an integration of art and narrative which is at the root of the greatest picture books, whether they be richly worked pieces like Caldecott's *Three Jovial Huntsmen* and Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are*, or simply tales like William Nicholson's *The Pirate Twins* or Mary Rayner's *Mr and Mrs Pig's Evening Out*. These are touchstones in the art of the picture book and a few more like them will not come amiss in the present abundance of the *Times/Penguin* Competition is open to anyone in the United Kingdom and Eire who has not previously had a children's picture book published or accepted for publication. Rules for submissions must be obtained by sending a postcard to Penguin Books Ltd, 53a Kings Road, London, SW10 0UH.

Brian Alderson

## S. Should seek at all prices to students just before performance

When telephoning, please provide London theatre

**OPERA AND BALLET**

**COVENT GARDEN** 8.30. 10.55. (Subscription only) *THE ROYAL OPERA*. Tonight: *Les Huguenots*. Tomorrow: *Les Huguenots*. Wednesday: *Les Huguenots*. Thursday: *Les Huguenots*. Friday: *Les Huguenots*. Saturday: *Les Huguenots*. Sunday: *Les Huguenots*.

**LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET** 8.30. 10.55. (Subscription only) *LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET*. Tonight: *Les Huguenots*. Tomorrow: *Les Huguenots*. Wednesday: *Les Huguenots*. Thursday: *Les Huguenots*. Friday: *Les Huguenots*. Saturday: *Les Huguenots*. Sunday: *Les Huguenots*.

**SCOTTISH OPERA** 8.30. 10.55. (Subscription only) *SCOTTISH OPERA*. Tonight: *Les Huguenots*. Tomorrow: *Les Huguenots*. Wednesday: *Les Huguenots*. Thursday: *Les Huguenots*. Friday: *Les Huguenots*. Saturday: *Les Huguenots*. Sunday: *Les Huguenots*.

**CONCERTS**

**ST. JOHN'S SMITH SQ. (D. 222 1001)** 8.30. 10.55. (Subscription only) *ST. JOHN'S SMITH SQ.*. Tonight: *Les Huguenots*. Tomorrow: *Les Huguenots*. Wednesday: *Les Huguenots*. Thursday: *Les Huguenots*. Friday: *Les Huguenots*. Saturday: *Les Huguenots*. Sunday: *Les Huguenots*.

**THEATRES**

**ADOLPHUS** 8.30. 10.55. (Subscription only) *ADOLPHUS*. Tonight: *Les Huguenots*. Tomorrow: *Les Huguenots*. Wednesday: *Les Huguenots*. Thursday: *Les Huguenots*. Friday: *Les Huguenots*. Saturday: *Les Huguenots*. Sunday: *Les Huguenots*.

**THE WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL** 8.30. 10.55. (Subscription only) *THE WORLD'S GREATEST MUSICAL*. Tonight: *Les Huguenots*. Tomorrow: *Les Huguenots*. Wednesday: *Les Huguenots*. Thursday: *Les Huguenots*. Friday: *Les Huguenots*. Saturday: *Les Huguenots*. Sunday: *Les Huguenots*.

**APOLLO THEATRE** 8.30. 10.55. (Subscription only) *APOLLO THEATRE*. Tonight: *Les Huguenots*. Tomorrow: *Les Huguenots*. Wednesday: *Les Huguenots*. Thursday: *Les Huguenots*. Friday: *Les Huguenots*. Saturday: *Les Huguenots*. Sunday: *Les Huguenots*.

**THEATRE ROYAL** 8.30. 10.55. (Subscription only) *THEATRE ROYAL*. Tonight: *Les Huguenots*. Tomorrow: *Les Huguenots*. Wednesday: *Les Huguenots*. Thursday: *Les Huguenots*. Friday: *Les Huguenots*. Saturday: *Les Huguenots*. Sunday: *Les Huguenots*.

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## THE ARTS

Die Ermittlung  
West Berlin

## Paul Moor

The bizarre revival at Berlin's Freie Volksbühne of Peter Weiss's 1965 documentary play *Die Ermittlung* has created the biggest theatrical scandal in West Berlin since the world premier of Rolf Hochhuth's first play *The Deputy*. Weiss's play appeared in English as *The Investigation*, but *Ermittlung* means precisely the opposite. He took his material from a long drawn years ago which sought to ascertain the degree of guilt of a number of former SS personnel at Auschwitz, the biggest and most ghastly of Hitler's original extermination camps.

One of pre-Hitler Berlin's greatest theatrical innovators, Erwin Piscator, staged the

world premiere production (in this case, incidentally) with factual objectivity, letting the horrific testimony by Auschwitz survivors speak for itself. Thomas Schulte-Michels and his designer Susanne Thaler, in this new production, have taken off in quite another direction.

The auditorium remains empty. On the stage itself they have built what amounts to a two-storey circular night club of notable sleaziness. Across the ground floor an elevated runway, lit by a single floor-level bulb, connects two raised acting platforms on either side. The five actors and three actresses wear garish make-up and fancy clothes, and jewelry in the hair and the ears of some of the men leads a filip of perversity. The performers flit with the spectators, who sit at tiny tables on which they find glasses and

split of theatrical manipulation famous under the name of "alienation", and he employed

## The lurid shadow of Auschwitz

it to telling effect on many occasions, especially in what he called his "teaching plays". Not even Brecht, though, ever dared play fast and loose with anything so appalling as the story of Auschwitz and of the six million murders committed there and in similar, smaller extermination camps.

These performers switch from role to role but without changing costumes, the survivor in one segment becoming the SS sadist in the next. Interpolations turn the environment into that of a prosperous cocktail party, or a television quiz or talk show. Those playing the court officials punctuate survivors' testimony with superficial tittering, sipping

wine from one hand while gliding the other up a female thigh. In between segments song hits from the 1940s ooze from loudspeakers.

Thomas Schulte-Michels seems to have intended his staging as a savage attack against present-day West German indifference towards the issue of responsibility for all those murders, which now lie so far in the past. He first staged this play in his fashion last year in the Rhineland town of Moers (pop 103,300) where both audience and critics reacted so positively that the company there seriously considered touring and making a film of it for television. In sophisticated Ber-

lin, though, without warning, all hell has broken loose. Some reviews have defended the production's fundamental premise, but most have savaged it. As soon as they appeared, the chairman of West Berlin's Jewish community (unfortunately without apparently having taken the trouble to see the production for himself) demanded the cancellation of further performances.

Peter Weiss, himself half-Jewish, did not see the Moers production and did not attend the Berlin rehearsals or premiere, but he did, from his home in Sweden, leap to the defence of this production, of the Freie Volksbühne, and of

its beleaguered director Kurt Hübner, who already had head-aches enough before this current tornado struck. In a statement, Weiss spoke favourably of this "polarisation" and "controversial discussion" he asked Hübner to relay to the performers his greetings and to give them courage, and he declared his "complete solidarity" with them all.

He concluded: "I can imagine this play staged differently, but from what I know about it, I find this production completely suitable for our time. You have my complete confidence. Cancel? Under no circumstances!"

And so the show goes on. Hübner, who actively practices the courage of his convictions, tries to prepare his audiences for what awaits them and makes himself available for discussion afterwards. On opening night only a few people applauded, and then apparently as an automatic reflex action—just as some of them actually fell into Mr Schulte-Michels' little trap by

opening the champagne on their tables and sipping it during the exposition of this horrifying material. To what extent does Auschwitz remain with us in Germany today? By a grisly coincidence, one leaves the theatre to see in neon, directly across the street, the name of the firm which documentation shows bought the gold teeth and fittings salvaged in the death camps. Survivors say they still have dreams—"all the time"—prompted by camp experiences from which they awaken screaming, thrashing and sweating, and from which they expect no success as long as they remain alive.

In this new production, it boils down to a question of taste, and *de gustibus, non disputandum est*. Thomas Schulte-Michels had, assuredly, the best, most admirable intentions. The individual spectator, in the light of his own experiences, must decide whether he also had commensurate taste.

## ART GALLERIES

## ROY MILES GALLERY

Exhibition of New Works

6 Duke St., London SW1

Unit 12 April, Wednesdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 13 April, Thursdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 14 April, Fridays 10.00-5.00

Unit 15 April, Saturdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 16 April, Sundays 10.00-5.00

Unit 17 April, Mondays 10.00-5.00

Unit 18 April, Tuesdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 19 April, Wednesdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 20 April, Thursdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 21 April, Fridays 10.00-5.00

Unit 22 April, Saturdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 23 April, Sundays 10.00-5.00

Unit 24 April, Mondays 10.00-5.00

Unit 25 April, Tuesdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 26 April, Wednesdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 27 April, Thursdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 28 April, Fridays 10.00-5.00

Unit 29 April, Saturdays 10.00-5.00

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Unit 99 April, Saturdays 10.00-5.00

Unit 100 April, Sundays 10.00-5.00

## Television

World in Action  
Granada

## Joan Bakewell

The cover-up provided for Nazi war criminals in the United States makes *World in Action* look like a high school prank, a classy affair of silly bugging devices and petty deceptions hopelessly organized by amateurs at the game. By comparison, the real pros were having real success. Ever since the war, the heavy baton of the FBI, the CIA, the State Department, the Roman Catholic church and the immigration service have combined in an establishment consensus that there was to be no pursuit of Nazis in flight from postwar Europe. They were anti-Communists after all. That was the case argued and documented with *World in Action*'s usual remorselessness.

In charting the postwar career of at least four of the most villainous, Artukovic, Trifa, Matkovski and Demjanuk, they had such an amount of appalling testimony that one could scarcely absorb one shock before being hit by another. Cardinal Spellman himself petitioned the immigration authorities on behalf of Artukovic, whose brutalities had exceeded those of the SS. Trifa, the perpetrator of a 1941 pogrom, self-appointed head of the Romanian church in the United States, blessed the opening of the Senate under Richard

Nixon's vice-presidency. The FBI and CIA even hired former Nazis as agents. It makes those excuses about tapes look feeble.

In peaceful years, when public conflicts in Britain are marks are regularly given to the media for the flimsy of both sides of the case, opinions freely invited for and against, neutral editorial stance, Granada's power house of polemic frequently ascribes such dispositions and is criticized for it. Not here, surely. This was a densely packed yet clearly told and unqualified condemnation.

Yet the hotter the subject, the cooler the treatment. Appealing facts need no fancy phrases. *World in Action* has elevated the anti-techniques of surreptitious reporting into a house style. Packing their cameras away into boldface and focussing through spyholes, they go hunting their quarry. They find it all the more convincing for being out of focus. Jump cut or with plenty of camera jolts and knocks. And in some surrealist reversal of reality the most convincing shots of all on Monday were those that were totally incomprehensible. The intrepid cameraman George Jesse Turner, chased by the killer of Trifa, simply kept his camera running. I doubt if it will win him awards, but it convinced me. It may even provide fodder for James Burke.

## Writers and Places

## BBC 2

## Stanley Reynolds

"If," Michael Hastings said, "I went along to the National Theatre and told them I would need 60 black fingers and dancers they'd slam the door in my face." Well, you thought, they would not doubt slam the door in the face of anyone wanting a colour. But Michael Hastings has a problem. He is a white man, a Jew, trying to write about the problems of the Blacks in Britain today. He said he felt sometimes as if he had the measles because no one wanted black plays by a white writer. Hastings' interest in the Blacks stems from his life in Britain. He moved there with his family in 1944 when it had a large Jewish community. He still lives in Britain as a Jew, a writer, and a Jew. Hastings is a novelist and short story writer as well as a playwright, and, judging by his easy manner last night, he could very quickly become a television figure as well.

lot of old music hall songs from the Cays when Brixton was full of theatre and theatre people. Michael Hastings' *Writers and Places* was a very nice twinning of nostalgia and political propaganda. Perhaps propaganda is too emotive a word.

Hastings, however, is a militant working-class writer who has taken to championing the Blacks of Britain and young black writers like Eddie Mills, part of whose play, *Trouble in Brixton*, was included in last night's programme. The remark about the National came out when Hastings was talking about his old play about the life of the late Marcus Garvey, the black leader, founder of the Back to Africa Movement.

Hastings, who had his first play produced at the Royal Court when he was still a teenager, has a very good dramatic track record and you felt that his Marcus Garvey play would be produced somewhere soon. Hastings is a novelist and short story writer as well as a playwright, and, judging by his easy manner last night, he could very quickly become a television figure as well.

The similarities between Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* and Verdi's *Rigoletto* have been much commented on. Quite apart from the fact that both are based on Victor Hugo tragedies and both ran into trouble with the censors the core of each opera is formed by family love which verges on incest. Donizetti's tale of a mother's infatuation with her son, Verdi's of a father's obsession with his daughter.

Bonyage: I think that Verdi was much influenced by *Lucia di Lammermoor*. The strength of Donizetti's opera lies in his extraordinarily powerful sense of the theatre. It is not a matter of coincidence that Felice Romani's libretto sticks very closely to the Hugo. The difficulty I suppose, is to reconcile a wicked woman with the beautiful music Donizetti gave to her.

Sutherland: The cantilena does not suggest wickedness. Maybe it's only when *Lucia* is unmasked that she becomes evil; that beautiful music Richard has mentioned thus far her love for her boy. But she's certainly a powerful woman, who's achieved a lot by the time she reaches the age of 39, including poisoning five people.

How do the Bonyages rate *Lucia* among Donizetti's operas?

Bonyage: Not as good as *Lucia* or *Maria Stuarda*. I have a particular affection for *Stuarda*, which I think is a fantastically well constructed work—Donizetti at the very apex of his theatrical powers. The qual-

ity of the ensemble writing is perhaps the greatest achievement of *Lucia*.

Sutherland: Yes... there's a great deal of bravura in the vocal line. But I like *Lucia* because there is something infinitely rewarding for each of the principal singers; the music is very well balanced. As you know, we're including the aria Donizetti wrote for the tenor Ivanoff, which Richard discovered when he was working in the Morgan Library in New York. That's for Alfredo Kraus, who has never sung it before, but it's much better than the one composed for Mario. Alfred and I are exactly the same age and I'm glad to say that we're both booked well into 1983!

The major Donizetti role Dame Joan has not so far tackled is Anna Bolena. She was to have sung it in Toronto, but the plans were postponed and are not to be revived in the immediate future. The next major project is a production of Verdi's *I masnadieri* at the Australian Opera, where Richard Bonyage is Music Director, followed by *Adriano Lecocq* at the 1982 Holland Festival. Bonyage insists that *Lucia* is the "most beautiful canto of the verismo operas", a slightly Irish turn of phrase, and he goes on to claim that it is the natural descendant of Bellini, not Verdi. He has also been looking through scores by Pacini and Mercadante, but has not so far decided on anything for revival.

Decca, for whom Joan Sutherland has been under exclusive contract for some time, have just produced a massive list of her recordings, probably long enough to exceed that of any other contemporary singer, to go with her first collection of Wagner arias, which will be reviewed by William Mann in Saturday's record page.

Sutherland: Don't read too much into that Wagner album. It's not a change of direction or anything like that. I knew most of the arias when I first came to London from Australia and people tend to forget that my first Covent Garden parts were in Wagner—Woodbird, Rheinmädchen, Eva







# RT Sponsors threaten to pull out of Boat Race in name dispute

London. The leisure group, which withdrew the sponsorship of the Boat Race yesterday, has threatened to withdraw its £50,000 contribution to the race if the name of the boat is changed to "Leisure Boat".

The Leisure Boat Race, which is run by the Leisure Boat Race Association, has been a controversial issue since its inception. The association has been accused of being a front for the Leisure Boat Race Association, which is a company owned by the Leisure Boat Race Association.

# Philip's warning on environment aid to sport

Hennessy. Duke of Edinburgh. A warning yesterday by the Duke of Edinburgh that the more the government spends on environmental aid to sport, the more it will be spending on environmental aid to sport.

# ns for world in India Pakistan

March 25.—A proposal for a series of two Test matches between Pakistan and India, starting on October 1, has been made by the Pakistan Cricket Board.

# RAF defenders keep Army assaults at bay

The organisers of the Services hockey championship removed their camp from the RAF yesterday, after the RAF had held on to a slender lead to beat the Army.

# n Vigo on list

A name put Green Vigo, a 1979, on the list of players who were not selected for the 1979-80 season.

# unrepresented

It will not be represented by the European Hockey Federation in the 1980-81 season.

# Racing Zongalero may yet add quality to National

By John Karter. Thirty-three horses stood their ground for Saturday's Grand National at the four-day steeplechase festival at Aintree.

Mr. Allen Mays-Smith, who was the first to ride Zongalero, said that the horse was a "real winner" and that he was "very happy" to have won the race.



No doubt about the verdict here as Royal Judgement sprints clear at the last.

Runners in the race and his stable can be backed collectively at 5-2. The biggest groan on a marvellous spring day at Sandown Park yesterday came about 30 seconds after the start of the main race, the Alastair Memorial Handicap.

# O'Brien's equine art gallery looks a picture of fitness

By Michael Phillips. Vincent O'Brien has nearly half the number of horses in his stable that Henry Cecil has in his at Newmarket. But it is a safe bet that O'Brien's horses are in better shape than Cecil's.

# Catterick Bridge NH programme

2.15 FORCET PARK HURDLE (Selling: £483: 2m). 2.45 WHORLTON CHASE (Handicap: £1,078: 2m). 3.15 YARM HURDLE (Handicap: £1,015: 2m).

# Leicester results

2.15 (2.15) KEYSTONE STAKES (Handicap: £500: 2m). 2.45 (2.45) WHORLTON CHASE (Handicap: £1,078: 2m). 3.15 (3.15) YARM HURDLE (Handicap: £1,015: 2m).

# Sandown Park NH

2.15 (2.15) KEYSTONE STAKES (Handicap: £500: 2m). 2.45 (2.45) WHORLTON CHASE (Handicap: £1,078: 2m). 3.15 (3.15) YARM HURDLE (Handicap: £1,015: 2m).

# Sedgefield results

2.15 (2.15) KEYSTONE STAKES (Handicap: £500: 2m). 2.45 (2.45) WHORLTON CHASE (Handicap: £1,078: 2m). 3.15 (3.15) YARM HURDLE (Handicap: £1,015: 2m).

# Law Report March 25 1980

## Queen's Bench Division

### Adoption: councillor may see confidential papers

Recina v Birmingham City District Council, Ex parte O. Before Lord Justice Evershed and Mr Justice Watkins. Confidential information received by the social services committee of a local authority relating to persons applying for adoption may be revealed to a member of the local authority who is concerned with the committee because the local authority is the adoption agency with responsibility for adoption, and where the committee is a committee of the local authority, it is entitled to receive such information as a member of that agency.

Regulation 2 of the Adoption Agencies Regulations, 1976, (SI 1976 No 726) provides: "(1) An adoption agency means a registered adoption society or a local authority acting as an agency making arrangements for the adoption of children."

Regulation 10 provides: "Any information obtained by a person in the course of negotiations entered into by or on behalf of the agency with a person proposing to place a child with an agency for adoption or with a person proposing to adopt him, shall be treated as confidential and shall not be disclosed to any other person."

Lord Justice Evershed said that the council was not a local authority for the purposes of the Adoption Agencies Regulations, 1976, and that the council was not an adoption agency.

### VAT on 'inducement' goods

GUS Merchandise Corporation v Commissioners for Customs and Excise. Taxable supplies by way of goods given without charge to a company as an inducement to new agents for placing a first order with the company were held by the court to be subject to VAT.

### Fumes left workers impotent, judge told

From Our Correspondent. A frightening list of health disorders, including sexual difficulties, struck workers at a plastics and chemical plant, Mr Justice Woolf told at Sheffield Crown Court yesterday.

### Seven workers at the plant of Vinotex Ltd at Staveley, near Chesterfield, Derbyshire, are suing the company for damages after exposure to vinyl chloride in the early seventies.

Mr Christopher Rose, QC, for the men, who are involved in processing and bagging the chemical, said their conditions fell into three categories, seriously affected, moderately affected and slightly affected.

### He said that initially there were 22 claims against the company, but most of those had been settled, very seriously affected receiving settlements of between £30,000 to £40,000 each, £15,000 to £25,000 for the seriously affected, £7,500 to £10,000 for the moderately affected and £3,500 to £5,000 for those slightly affected.

Mr Rose, opening the case, which is expected to last several days, said it was not until late 1972 and early 1973 that the health hazards caused by exposure to the chemical became apparent.



PARLIAMENT, March 25, 1980

## Imminent announcement of plans to compel trade unions to pay more towards the cost of strikes

House of Commons  
It was not right that trade unions should be able to count on the taxpayer to support the families of the country's unemployed, said Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, when deputizing for Mrs Thatcher at Prime Minister's question time.

Earlier Mr Reginald Prentice, Minister of State for Social Security, had indicated that there would be an imminent announcement about the issue.

Mr John Butcher (Coventry, South-West, C) said: "A TUC report has indicated that trade unions spend an average 88p per member on strike pay and an average £2.72 a member on administration."

This supports the Government's contention that trade unions should be more responsible for their own members' welfare during times of strike.

Sir Keith Joseph—Yes. He is right. We do not want strikes to increase so that unions have money to spend on strike pay. We think it is only fair that unions should bear more of the cost than they do now.

Later, replying to Mr Dafydd Wigley (Cardigan, Pl Cymru), he said the Government was satisfied that reasonable progress was being made in the legislative programme announced in the Queen's Speech.

Mr Wigley—The time is ripe to abandon the theories underlying the legislative programme in that it is time to abandon the idea that you can starve men back to work by reducing social security benefits. It is time to reconsider the whole attitude towards creating employment.

Sir Keith Joseph—We believe that our policy is the only policy that can achieve the underlying purposes of both sides of the House: higher employment and better public benefits and social services.

We do not believe it is right at the moment that the trade unions should be able to count on the taxpayer to support the families of strikers while people are on strike. We think the vast majority of the country agree with that.

The matter was first mentioned during questions to the Secretary of State for Social Security.

Mr Nicholas Budge (Wolverhampton, South-West, C)—Our proposal may have the effect of encouraging people to join unions so that they may enjoy the benefit of support during a strike.

It may have the effect of encouraging the unions to concentrate on their legitimate role of trying to improve working conditions and wages and give up the improper role of trying to be a political party.

Mr Prentice—Our proposals will be seen to have many healthy consequences, including those he has enumerated.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on social security (Birmingham, Perry Bar, Lab)—If a strike is in progress, will his family be treated in the same way as the families of other prisoners in that prison at the time?

Mr Prentice—We will be concerned in this imminent announcement with the effect of a trades dispute, not the effect of a criminal act.

Mr Andrew Bennett (Stockport, North, Lab)—What is the difference between someone on strike and someone who is in prison?

Mr Prentice—Because we take the view, as does a majority of the general public, that if people go on strike either they are individuals or they are part of a group.

Mr Prentice—The proportion of strikers' families in the steel strike drawing supplementary

benefit is much larger than this because of all the unions involved in the strike only the few general workers' unions have been paying strike pay. The cost to the taxpayer so far is £8m.

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Mr Nicholas Budge (Wolverhampton, South-West, C)—Our proposal may have the effect of encouraging people to join unions so that they may enjoy the benefit of support during a strike.

It may have the effect of encouraging the unions to concentrate on their legitimate role of trying to improve working conditions and wages and give up the improper role of trying to be a political party.

Mr Prentice—Our proposals will be seen to have many healthy consequences, including those he has enumerated.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on social security (Birmingham, Perry Bar, Lab)—If a strike is in progress, will his family be treated in the same way as the families of other prisoners in that prison at the time?

Mr Prentice—We will be concerned in this imminent announcement with the effect of a trades dispute, not the effect of a criminal act.

Mr Andrew Bennett (Stockport, North, Lab)—What is the difference between someone on strike and someone who is in prison?

Mr Prentice—Because we take the view, as does a majority of the general public, that if people go on strike either they are individuals or they are part of a group.

Mr Prentice—The proportion of strikers' families in the steel strike drawing supplementary

## Minister to look at transplant code

Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of State for Health, told Mr John Farr (Harrow, C) that he was ready to consider the possibility of the wording of the code of practice for the transplantation of human organs relating to the anonymity of donors.

Dr Vaughan (Reading, South, C) said: "I am sure the House shares Mr Farr's concern at the distress caused to a family in his constituency. I note that when he introduced his Bill he told the House that he had come to the conclusion that the Press Council, I am sure that is the right method of pursuing this matter."

Mr Farr—Would the minister recognize, in the light of recent events, that the code of practice is couched in casual terms. Would he ensure something stronger is written into the Health Services Bill now before the House?

Dr Vaughan—Yes, I can understand his point of view and will certainly have a look at the wording and see if it needs strengthening.

## NHS drug bill running at £740m a year

A suggestion that private patients should get drugs on the same basis as NHS patients obtained them was rejected by Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of State for Health.

Mr Richard Alexander (Newark, C) had asked how much it would cost to get them on this basis.

Dr Vaughan—The present patient pays as much as the NHS does for the same drug, so it is only fair that he should be able to get drugs on the same basis.

Dr Vaughan—I appreciate his feelings but the total drug bill in England in 1979, excluding hospital pharmaceutical services, was almost £740m. The bulk of this was incurred on prescriptions by general practitioners and doctors.

The average total cost per person was over £16 a head.

It could not be prudent to extend a private patient's right to free drugs to the NHS, as it would be to extend a private patient's right to free drugs to the NHS.

Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on social security (Birmingham, Perry Bar, Lab)—The question is not whether we should ask for drugs on the NHS when the private sector make no contribution to the cost of drugs or doctors and exploit NHS equipment.

Dr Vaughan—I do not accept that. Only this morning in a committee I listed the private institutions which train nurses.

Travel to work  
Mr Peter Rees, Minister of State, Treasury, told Mr George Young (Harrow, C) that he was considering the possibility of public funds of making rail and bus fares to and from work allowed for tax purposes would be about £270m.

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## Libyan school in Chelsea not to get diplomatic status

School premises bought by the Libyan Government in Chelsea would not be granted diplomatic status, Lord Bellwin, Under Secretary for the Environment, said in a statement.

Lord Bellwin—Whether or not the premises are suitable for the purpose specified is for the local authority to decide. If at any time there is a change of use, the premises are being used for improper purposes as Lord Chalfont suggests then, and only then, will it be the time for any appropriate action.

Lord Greville-Roberts (Lab) for the Opposition—As these premises are to be used for educational purposes, it is not clear why they should not be granted diplomatic status.

Lord Bellwin—As I understand it, the Libyan Embassy has bought the premises in Chelsea and intends to use it for educational purposes. The school was sold by the Inner London Education Authority last year to a third party who in turn sold it to the Libyans.

This is a matter of essentially local interest and as such is for the local authority to decide. I see no reason to regard the transaction as such as being inconsistent with national interests.

Lord Chalfont—It is not just a matter of local interest. These premises have been bought by a foreign government and are being used for educational purposes. It is not clear why they should not be granted diplomatic status.

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## Commission document 'can form basis of solution'

There was no way in which the imbalance in the United Kingdom's EEC budget contribution could be made good by expenditure on research and development, Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said early today (Tuesday) in replying to a question.

He indicated that the EEC Commission had suggested that a special fund should be set up, under article 235 of the Treaty of Rome. That fund would direct expenditure to the United Kingdom.

The following motion was carried: "That this House fully supports the Prime Minister in his efforts to secure agreement at the next European Council to action which will bring about a substantial reduction in the United Kingdom's net contribution to the Community budget and furthermore to ensure that there is a commitment by the Commission to reduce the size of the budget which would bring about a significant reduction in the proportion of spending on the Community budget."

By 125 votes to 71—Government majority, 54, the House rejected an Opposition amendment supporting Mrs Thatcher's efforts to secure agreement at the European Council so that "as the House unanimously resolved on July 16 and November 12, 1979 Great Britain's contribution to the budget is

at least not greater than the receipts, and furthermore to ensure that there is a commitment by the Commission to reduce the size of the budget which would bring about a significant reduction in the proportion of spending on the Community budget."

Mr Peter Shore, Opposition spokesman on social security (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab)—Last night the House was subjected to a deceitful and even cowardly course of action. This document which is about the extent to which this night will continue to pay over to the EEC budget is a very particular document. It should have been laid before the House but it was deliberately withheld with the result that the vote last night was based upon totally inadequate evidence.

Will be ensured that Mr Lawson comes to the House and makes a forthright statement on this matter?

Sir Keith Joseph—The document is a useful contribution and can form the basis of a constructive discussion. I take seriously what he said. I believe completely in the integrity of Mr Lawson and it is on all occasions a vivid and vigorous speaker.

Earlier Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) said: "One of the major planks of the Queen's Speech was genuine reductions in public expenditure. In order to achieve this we have to reduce substantially our contribution to the EEC budget."

Would he give an assurance that we can achieve this objective? We will review our present position, bearing in mind that our membership of Europe presents us with decisions in the best interests of the United Kingdom?

Sir Keith Joseph—On the first part the answer is an unqualified 'Yes'. On the second, we very much hope the Government will understand the equity and force of our claim.

Mr Foot said later that the Opposition regarded the matter of the Community budget as one of the most important. The debate last night had taken place, in a sense, on false premises.

Mr Lawson should make a statement to the House today, as the Commission document 'can form basis of solution'.

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## Campaign against social security abuse

The attitude of Labour MPs to social security abuse suggested they were on the side of the scrounger rather than the honest taxpayer, Mr Reginald Prentice, Minister of State for Social Security, said today (Tuesday) in replying to a question.

Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on social security (Birmingham, Perry Bar, Lab) had asked what was the latest estimate of the extent of social security abuse.

Mr Prentice—The estimate of the extent of social security abuse is that it is about £200m a year. This is a very large sum of money and it is a very serious problem.

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## FAITH AND BELIEF

enthronement of a new shop of Canterbury is an n that requires the Church land not just to welcome man to lead it but also to s its order of priorities. are three purposes that urch as an institution must ave in mind: to preach pel both to its own mem- id to the unconverted; to itness in its social activi- that Gospel, to be a i of good works as well faith; to organize itself, ternally and in its rela- ith other Churches, as to the other two objectives. Church will never realize l potential if it fails to mportance to all three of purposes, but in recent it has seemed to accord too high a priority to the and third. It is poor y to the power of the an, faith if Christians can- operate effectively with oter, but perhaps too me and mental energy n devoted to the develop- y synodical government, y pursuing schemes of reunion with oter- es that have not yet com- ing. Similarly, there is r now that the ordination en will be another issue. ll prove too great a diver- t these questions matter, t to the exclusion of the e's central purpose.

equally important that the should demonstrate its to the Gospel by doing t can to relieve the suf- in the society around it. social work, the urge to

minister to the practical needs of the secular world, absorbs too high a proportion of effort there is the risk of the Church seeming to be little more than the greatest of the voluntary organizations.

The principal purpose of the Church must be to preach the Gospel, and to do so in ways that will seem relevant to the world today. This is not a call for liturgical gimmickry, or for self-conscious attempts to keep up with the latest manifestations of youth culture. It is rather a plea for intellectual substance. The intellectual foundations of Christianity have been undermined, in appearance though not in fact, for more than a century. Yet if the essential message of the Church is not believed everything else it does is either a waste of time or something that others could do equally well.

In some of his remarks since his appointment was announced Archbishop Runcie has placed a welcome emphasis upon intellectual substance. Yet, if this course is followed, there is a contrary danger of which he showed himself to be fully aware in his enthronement address yesterday. How can a Church that is concentrating upon the intellectual substance of its message, avoid becoming a narrow sect? Can it stress the importance of doctrine without becoming narrowly dogmatic? "We are tempted", he declared, "to organize ourselves like any other party or pressure group, to establish sharper dividing lines between those who are members and those who are not, to compete more aggressively for the attention of the public, to

recruit new members with a strident self-confidence which suggests that we have nothing to learn, to persuade with a loud voice rather than with the quiet reason of the heart."

The dilemma is a real one, but the answer is probably to be found in the nature of religious belief and in the traditions of the Church of England. The truth of Christianity cannot be proved as if it were subject to the laws of natural science. Faith must always require the leap in the dark, but it is a leap that can be aided by the intellect; not just the heart, but quiet reason, too.

This approach to religion is in accord with the traditions of the Church of England. Sometimes they have led to a distinct worldliness, more recently to what has seemed to be close to humanism in a cassock—and indeed there were portions of Archbishop Runcie's address yesterday in which his admirable desire for a dialogue with all people of goodwill seemed to verge in that direction. But at its best the Church has been true to the definition offered by Bishop Creighton in 1899: "the formula which most explains the position of the Church of England is that it rests on an appeal to sound learning." It does not seek to prove its propositions with mathematical precision, but to put its propositions in a form which does not defy the intelligence of learned men. In an age that is becoming progressively more open to religious speculation, it is still important that belief and reason should not be seen as being in conflict with each other.

## THE MARTYRDOM OF AN ARCHBISHOP

order on Monday night of scar, Arnulfo Romero, the shop of San Salvador, is king event, and not only s of the outstanding quali- the man. It also shows the stupidity of the assassins, appear to think that they fle the claims for simple which Mgr. Romero ed by an act of violence sort. In fact his murder ly hard attitudes in El r still further and lead s bloodshed. Salvadoreans d hoped that some sort of l reform would be poss- lar last October's coup, e promises which were ade, are bound to be disillusioned. Even Monday's shooting, the appeared to be slipping civil war, because of ice on the right to the s which are badly needed, s growing strength of the revolutionary movements. urder of Mgr. Romero, who ed peaceful reform, has t it nearer.

Catholic radio station, was widely listened to. He used them to denounce acts of repression by the armed forces, of which there have been all too many in recent years, and to advocate social change. Obviously he was a thorn in the side of successive governments, and particularly resented by the armed forces. He received many death threats. But until now the position of the Roman Catholic Church in El Salvador, and his own personal standing, had protected him.

El Salvador is a country in which a great part of the wealth is held by a few families—the "Fourteen Families" according to tradition. Pressures for land reform were resisted for many years; the last, big uprising was a peasant's rebellion in 1932, which was brutally put down by the army with something between 10,000 and 20,000 deaths. Since then the armed forces have been in control, and the economic interest groups have been able to ensure that there were no radical changes. The prospect suddenly improved with last October's coup, when younger officers took over and promised reform. The brought civilian politicians, many with progressive views, into the government. But the new junta found that, whatever good intentions it might have, it was not able to put them into effect because of resistance from the armed forces and the right, so that the leftists left the government.

Since then a new junta has been formed, with the participation of the Christian Democrats and the active support of the United States, which is anxious about developments in Central America in the aftermath of last year's revolution in Nicaragua and is trying to promote reform. A far-reaching land reform programme has been announced and the banks have been nationalized. But violence and killings continue, many of them carried out by the security forces.

Mgr. Romero's standpoint was that of a committed churchman, in line with the contemporary doctrines of the Catholic Church in Latin America. He gave a cautious welcome to the government set up after the October coup, and then became critical when violence continued. He was sharply critical of the United States for acting to support repressive policies in El Salvador. He also implied that, though he advocated peaceful reform, when all else failed change might have to come about by violent means, through the revolutionary movements of the left. It is not surprising that he made enemies in the heated atmosphere of Salvadorean politics, where the right tends to regard all pressures for change as communist-inspired. But his murder is not going to still the pressure for reform, and ensures that his memory will live on as an inspiration.

## CHANGE IN THE AFRICAN BALANCE

establishment of an indepen- Zimbabwe under a ate black nationalist ment will, if Mr Mugabe's atic policies are con- ed and successful, produce e-up in relationships in from the Cape to Somalia. ed civil war in Rhodesia. have kept a group of over- d economies on the edge skdown. A new prospect is g up, and it could be able.

ediately, both Mozambique mbia have been relieved edge of disaster. Zambia d most from the Rhode- and Angolan wars which ally blocked all her outlets sea apart from the Chinese- anzam line, whose capacity he first was disappointing which is now decrepit. a's copper should flow ingly to its markets along its med routes through Beira uth Africa.

both President Kaunda esident Machel the restora- f Zimbabwe's agriculture s normal productivity es to abate the threat of s and unrest; the influence hel may be seen in the y Mr Mugabe has given to ring the white farmers and ing exports. The political juence of this is important: lessen the dependence of three upon President re's leadership. Not only yerere largely inspire the rline Presidents" in work- the Rhodesian solution, e even diverted maize to f them despite Tanzania's rowing food shortage. They beheld to him; now they holly their own men.

sident Nyerere, besides the frontline presidents sisting on Mugabe's vic- last year ejected President from Uganda, where he

still has nearly 20,000 troops in a law and order role. He proposes to withdraw them before long, but their presence has given him a large measure of control and veto over President Binaisa (his own nominee) even in cabinet reshuffles. (Just as Tanzanian troops in the Seychelles safeguarded the socialism they installed there.)

Nyerere's influence has thus been far reaching, but it is waning and not only in central Africa. For President Binaisa is also struggling for independence. This month he visited Kenya to show it. Ostensibly he wished to discuss the smuggling of coffee into Kenya, the need to improve road and rail links and the anarchy in the pastoral regions which afflict both countries. But he also certainly discussed with the Kenyans the possibility of a reconstruction for Uganda which would not be tied to the (increasingly unpopular). Tanzanian presence and allegiance to Nyerere's ideological leadership.

The Kenyans watch sardonically as Tanzania, shored up as it has been by western and international aid, seeks desperately for new loans and credits. But, after soliciting world bank assistance, Dr Nyerere repudiated (and still does) its conditions as infringing "our cherished policies of socialism and self-reliance". In effect he is demanding that his socialism must be funded and underwritten indefinitely by the capitalist west; to rub the argument in, he has refused to compensate Lombo for the nationalization of its assets, though indeed he has no money to compensate anybody, even if he felt the obligation. Now, however, his socialism's failures, combined with drought, have threatened Tanzania with famine as much as anarchy and drought threaten Uganda.

Kenya, on the other hand, faces all Tanzania's problems of import and oil prices, but with a flexible mixed economy, meets the impact of world recession from a far better position. It is now obviously the better partner for Uganda, or perhaps one should say that Kenya offers the best gateway through which aid to Uganda can flow; and Binaisa has already begun to restore Asian and foreign assets to their owners. The real obstacle to an aid programme is the continuing breakdown of law and order, which exacerbates the other tribal and political divisions of the post-Amin aftermath.

It may be said that this is the moment to revive Uganda's earlier informal ideas of a Commonwealth force. That idea is strengthened by the success of the Commonwealth monitors in Zimbabwe. Uganda presents a different task, but the instrument has proved itself. Kenya made a contribution in Rhodesia, and now Zimbabwe itself will, like Nigeria, have efficient troops to spare. The cost of reconstruction in Uganda will be far less if it can be assessed in an atmosphere of civil peace, such as a neutral force (with a training function) can supply. Britain's contribution would have to be limited, but it could again set the tone.

The border between pragmatic Kenya and socialist Tanzania remains closed, a symbol of Kenya's isolation. But perhaps Tanzania is destined now to change places with Kenya. Africa needs practical measures rather than ideology. Nyerere's services in Uganda merit recognition, but events are calling from him, no less than from other African leaders, a re-examination of his position and beliefs in the interests of his own suffering people.

## Withholding of VAT payments

From Sir Andrew Watson  
Sir, Now that we have a legally qualified Prime Minister might we not have been entitled to expect a greater respect for our treaty obligations?

It surely offers little encouragement to our citizens to respect our municipal laws if our head of government announces by intention to flout the Customs law by which we have so recently agreed to be bound.

It will be interesting to note the reaction of the Commissioner of Customs and Excise towards all those who now threaten to suspend their VAT payments pending a resolution of their dispute with the Inland Revenue. One suspects he may show them that in the long run such threats carry no weight and do not pay.

Yours truly,  
ANDREW WATSON,  
Tetlow House,  
Newbold-on-Stour,  
Stourport-on-Avon,  
Warwickshire,  
March 20.

From Mr Owen Warnock  
Sir, It seems that for the United Kingdom to withhold its VAT contributions from the EEC would be to break the law. If this is indeed so, I am disturbed that both the Government and the Opposition should accept as a proper tactic in the negotiations to reduce our share of the Community budget.

There are occasions when to break the law is a justifiable response to tyranny; we have surely not yet been driven so far. What causes the great concern is that it has not been felt necessary even to try to demonstrate why such a flagrant breach of the law is justified. The United Kingdom Government voluntarily submitted to the EEC legal system; most of the inhabitants of Britain had little choice but to accept our domestic laws. It would be ironic if the result of this "law and order" government's contribution to respect for the law would be to make the British feel morally free to flout it. Of course that will not be the result: we will be a law-abiding people and ashamed at our government's example.

The United Kingdom complains constantly and self-righteously about the French illegalities over lamb imports; it hypocritically for the Government to withhold VAT unless at the same time it states clearly why this is not against the law.

Yours faithfully,  
OWEN WARNOCK,  
13 Ashley Village,  
Coldharbour Lane,  
Fenchurch,  
Brixton,  
London SW8,  
March 21.

## Changes in planning law

From Mr F. J. C. Amos  
Sir, Your correspondent Mr Gay (March 15) charges Mr Switzer (February 29) with manufacturing controversy, but then proceeds to commit the same offence himself.

The effect of the changes in the planning law referred to in these letters is to let district councils always have their way in matters of the development of land, before there is a right of appeal against a refusal of permission.

It is true, of course, that the majority of development proposals only have local implications and should be dealt with very adequately by district councils. However, there are always some proposals which individually or collectively may seriously undermine the purpose of the overall county policies and plans for the area but which may, nevertheless, be highly attractive to the district council concerned. In the proposed legislation, if a district council decides to grant permission, there is nothing which the county council or the inhabitants can do.

Is it really in the public interest that local views should always override the wider community interest? Superficially, county policies and plans may seem remote and obscure, yet through the structure plan procedure county proposals have been discussed with people in all parts of the county as far as is possible, reflect their views and aspirations. As a result, counties have done much to secure an orderly development of town and country and to protect and enhance the environment.

The legislative proposals affecting development control and the approval of local plans will allow a headstrong district council to disregard these wider views and have its own way.

Can Mr Gay seriously suggest that these are only "routine amendments to planning law"?

Yours faithfully,  
FRANCIS J. C. AMOS,  
Honorary Secretary,  
The Royal Town Planning Institute,  
26 Portland Place, W1.

## Falkland fishing

From Mr G. White  
Sir, Mr Johnson asks (March 22) for Government help to discover whether there are fish around the Falkland Islands.

I can tell him that the last international football match of any consequence played in southern latitudes was Falkland Islands versus Poland. I stood among some Polish ladies giving support to their team. The truth of the matter is that about 1000 general East European fishing crewmen call in the outer harbour of Port Stanley to unload at one or more of their factory ships.

The kind people of Stanley, as sporting as they are sensible, can assure Mr Johnson that the fish these travellers catch are very good eating. What neither these orderly patriotic fishermen nor I can understand is why HUR, but not Warsaw or Moscow, needs confirmation that there are tons upon tons of fish around the islands and that every facility can be arranged for British fishermen. Every facility, that is, other than the likelihood of an easy win on the Stanley football pitch.

Yours faithfully,  
G. WHITE,  
14 West Drive,  
Caversham,  
Reading.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Against a reduction in child benefits

From Professor J. E. Meade, FBA  
Sir, To reduce public support for the family by economising child benefits has undesirable effects both for the relief of poverty and also for economic incentives. Finding support out of low wages for children is a main cause of poverty; and the payment of child benefits is for this reason a main weapon for the relief of poverty.

Unlike unemployment benefit, supplementary benefit and various means-tested payments, child benefits are paid to the parents regardless of their earnings; and for this reason their development in replacement of these other social benefits for children removes a main disincentive to earn at the lower end of the income scale. Their finance is expensive; but there are few forms of public expenditure which are advantageous for incentives as well as for social welfare.

Yours faithfully,  
J. E. MEADE,  
40 High Street,  
Little Shelford,  
Cambridge,  
March 23.

From the Director, Child Poverty Action Group  
Sir, Ronald Burt's case for the de-indexation of unemployment and other social security benefits (March 20) rests largely on the assumption that these benefits currently set as a major disincentive to work. He does not, however, produce any evidence in support of this assumption. Official figures, in fact, show that hardly anyone is better off out of work than in work, although it is true that there is a larger group who stand to gain only a few pounds on return to work especially if they do not claim all the means-tested benefits available to them. But a DHSS analysis of actual cases concluded that "this financial disincentive is only one of a number of factors and that it does not in itself deter more than a small proportion from seeking and finding work. The availability of jobs is the crucial factor, and personal health is also important."

To the extent that there is a problem of disincentives, the DHSS civil servants argued that "the solutions lie in increasing the income of those in work, not in cutting the real value of benefits. It is worth considering that the rate unemployment benefit for a couple with two children is a mere £33.35 a week plus £8 child benefit which is also paid in work. To cut benefits which are already too low can mean real hardship for the unemployed and others."

Unfortunately, Ronald Burt misunderstands the role that child

benefit plays here. Far from being part of a package of benefits which for some people actually make it more worth while not work than to work, child benefit, in the words of the Conservative Research Department, "has an important part to play in increasing work incentives. This is because an increase in child benefits helps the employed family but not the unemployed family (because an increase in child benefit is matched by a corresponding reduction in unemployment or supplementary benefit)." Furthermore, child benefit is not taxable which strengthens Mr Burt's argument that it should be viewed in the same way as personal tax allowances.

A truly "courageous" Budget would make cuts in government expenditure (which includes the "hidden welfare state" of tax reliefs and exemptions) at the expense of the better-off who benefited from last year's Budget in order to make it possible to protect the poor from the ravages of inflation and unemployment.

Yours faithfully,  
RUTH LISTER,  
Child Poverty Action Group,  
1 Macklin Street,  
Drury Lane, WC2,  
March 20.

From Professor C. V. Brown  
Sir, Your leading article today (March 24) is incorrect when it states: "Because child benefits are not means-tested they do not deter the individual from working more for himself and can be raised without any disincentive effect."

People at work will wish to work less if child benefit (or any other element of unearned income) increases. This has long been known to be true if people value extra leisure (the "income effect" of intermediate economic texts) and has now been confirmed by a large number of empirical studies in the United Kingdom and United States.

The argument may be easier to grasp intuitively if we consider the effect of not raising the benefit. Families will be worse off in real terms and will need to work more to maintain their previous living standards.

This argument of course leaves open the question of whether child benefit should have its real value maintained when living standards are falling.

Yours faithfully,  
C. V. BROWN,  
Ben Loyal,  
Chelton Road,  
Bridges of Allan,  
Stirling,  
March 24.

### Attitudes to Iran

From Dr A. Afroz  
Sir, I wish to protest very strongly against the article headed "Why Iran needs a new strategy", which you published in your issue of January 25, 1980.

In the first place, I think Mr Temple-Morris might have declared his interest, as the son-in-law of the late Khosrovi Alam, a close associate of the deposed Shah, before admonishing your readers not to "gossip through Western eyes about the Shah's past."

Secondly, I feel that you, Sir, by publishing an article of this type designed overtly to undermine the integrity and independence of a well-recognized government, are failing short of the responsibilities of your profession and abusing the freedom of the press.

I should not normally bother to answer such a spiteful and contemptible article. But I am anxious to show that we Iranians still respect the responsibility of the press, and that we count on the public to try sincerely to recognize the noble values and humanistic goals of the Islamic Revolution under Imam Khomeini's leadership, whose martyrs were killed to revive the purity and faith of early Islam, and to shape the true image of Islam for the benefit of all mankind.

In claiming that "the Shah has suffered enormous and unjustified vilification, even in the responsible press, as well as little in his defence," Mr Temple-Morris is merely repeating what the paid spokesmen of that megalomaniac "figurehead" have always said. The fact is that the deposed Shah, who had the support of the Iranian people for billions of dollars, has nothing to say in his defence.

Again, when Mr Temple-Morris writes "the Iranian Church simply does not have the capacity to govern," the Church which the Ayatollah Khomeini and Shariat-Madari, he simply reveals his own ignorance. The Iranian Muslim clergy are never called "the Church". Their high standards of political and moral and humanistic goals of life are quite

different from those of the pseudo-religious communities called churches. They are completely free from such human failings as egoism and conceit. There is therefore no reason to expect a civil war, a military coup, or a successful counter-revolution. But evidently some people are unwilling to accept the patent truth that, despite the subversive activities of some small foreign-inspired and publicly disgraced groups, our nation is wholeheartedly loyal to Imam Khomeini, and will by all means support the Islamic Revolution, whose victory has cost our people more than 70,000 innocent and noble lives.

Mr Temple-Morris is terribly mistaken if he really thinks that "the army is demoralized by the Revolution", and that the revolutionary guards "would not last long if confronted by any organized force". Our Islamic Army, which now has faith in God and not in the lunatic clown whom some call open-handed Aryamehr, is in every respect much stronger than ever; and the Revolutionary Guards who, with the strength of faith in God and sincere loyalty to Imam Khomeini, defeated the Pahlavi army, are now, with the support of the people, better placed than ever to confront our enemy. And I am sure Mr Temple-Morris was not reflecting the views of wise and responsible authorities when he wrote in Britain when he wrote "we and the West may find ourselves faced with the eventual necessity of seizing the Iranian and perhaps other oil fields."

Finally I should like to add that the unpleasant nineteenth-century habit of meddling in the internal affairs of other countries has been out of fashion among the wise for some time now, even in the West. Undoubtedly there is from time to time a resurgence of it in quarters where one would not necessarily expect it. Could it be that some people are unable to reconcile themselves to the loss of credits and careers which are no more?

Yours respectfully,  
A. AFROZ,  
Chargé d'Affaires,  
Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran,  
16 Princes Gate, SW7,  
March 19.

### Ireland's entente cordiale

From Mr D. Kennedy  
Sir, As every Irish schoolboy knows, the landing of General Humbert at Killybegs was followed by the rout of the Redcoats from Mayo. So competitive was the celebrity of their rout then and since has been celebrated by the title "The Races of Castletown". Humbert's army crossed the Shannon and was eventually defeated at Ballinacorney in Co Longford in the eastern province of Leinster. A Longford man, Sean MacDonagh, avenged the defeat of Humbert in this century and Redcoats no longer run in Mayo or stand in Longford.

Mr Charles Haughey, a native of Castletown, may perhaps have mentioned Humbert in his tête-à-tête at the Elysee, and will no doubt have a more judicious opinion of French endeavours than your leader writer. Yours cordially,  
DONAL KENNEDY,  
46 Belmont Road,  
Palmer's Green, N13.

### Right to resign

From Mr C. Nettleton  
Sir, I am as much against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan as anyone, and I am in favour of boycotting the Olympic Games in Moscow. But

Sir Frederick Corfield (March 22) is wrong when he says that, in electing to choose a career in the service of the Crown, a civil servant undertakes loyalty to implement the policies of HM Government.

The only policies of HM Government which a civil servant is bound to implement are those which the Government has incorporated in written laws. Sir Frederick's mention of the right to resign can only mean that he thinks that, if a civil servant does something contrary to a resolution of the House of Commons which is not a law, he should resign.

There have been a civil servant all my working life. A civil servant does not undertake to implement Government policies. The fact that the House of Commons passed a resolution on March 17 that (inter alia) "the House... believed that the United Kingdom should not take part in the Olympic Games in Moscow" does not oblige civil servants, either legally or morally, to "implement the policies of HM Government." A civil servant is just as entitled to do as he pleases as anyone else, provided he does not contravene the Official Secrets Act or otherwise break the law.

Yours faithfully,  
CLIFFORD NETTLETON,  
11 Goddards Close,  
Cranebrook,  
Kent.

## Government reform in Ulster

From Mr Jeffrey Dudgeon  
Sir, In the absence of devolution the Conservative manifesto promised Northern Ireland local government reform. A charitable view of the now grounded Atkins initiative is that it was intended as a last attempt to find agreement on devolution before proceeding to implement the plans of Airey Neave. Assessment of the Republican strategy of political assassination is dependent on Mrs Thatcher's next move. If the process of integration is further impeded as it has been since Mr Atkins replaced Roy Mason the strategy must be judged successful. For it was the murder of Lord Mountbatten that brought the "initiative" to life and saw the Mason-Neave policies reversed. There is obviously no agreement on devolution, just as there is no agreement on the structure of any revived government structure. It is fuel to the paramilitaries, by virtue of its instability. Direct rule is popular and requires permanence through re-insertion of an upper tier of local government. The Conservative Government cannot escape its commitment even if it must continue to pay lip service to some future return of Stormont.

It cannot have escaped the notice of the Prime Minister that external pressures have lapsed. Senator Kennedy has failed to become the Democratic nominee for the Presidency and Mr Haughey's indifference to anything short of Irish unity obviates any concessions to Dublin. Though local government reform will be resisted by the SDLP and categorized as a return to Protestant ascendancy, it will be under the direct supervision of Westminster for the first time. The House of Commons would not tolerate discrimination or sectarianism.

Yours sincerely,  
JEFFREY DUDGEON,  
161 Dunluce Avenue,  
Belfast 9.

### Social service spending

From Mr E. W. Mellor  
Sir, In referring to the "substantial contributions made to voluntary agencies providing residential care", Mr Hanson (March 7) overstates the case for local authorities. These contributions are made to help the resident pay the fees, and the voluntary body is well aware of this. The local authority would otherwise have the responsibility for, and generally doing it at less cost. It is only very exceptionally that payments are made to the organizations themselves, for example to extend or improve the homes they run. My organization is well aware of this, for it administers a non-governmental fund that goes a little way towards stepping into this breach.

I am not one whose pastime is "denigrating public agencies", certainly not Mr Hanson's, nor do I maintain that "informal caring systems were alone in innovation and experiment; but I know that they often make a valuable contribution to local social services. They run on a shoestring, but they need that shoestring badly, and it is not good enough to confuse the issue by saying that "informal caring systems should not be relying on financial subsidies from the public authorities". Families, neighbours and friends—the informal sector—are one thing; voluntary bodies are another. To make even a small cut in grant aid to voluntary bodies would be the sack of one of two paid staff, and could be lethal to the organization itself. Local authorities that make a marginal saving on their budgets by cuts of this sort need to be sure that this is what they intend.

The National Corporation for the Care of Old People has had the benefit of Mr Hanson's personal devotion to voluntary organizations, and would be sorry if his enthusiasm for statutory social services caused a misunderstanding of issues that are very important to the voluntary sector.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGH W. MELLOR,  
Director,  
National Corporation for the Care of Old People,  
Nuffield Lodge,  
Regent's Park, NW1.

### Natural highways

From Mr J. Liley  
Sir, John Young, in an otherwise succinct article (March 20) warns up two old chestnuts: that the Rhine, and by inference other water routes, is a "natural highway"; and that moving goods by water is attractive only if the distances are great.

On the contrary, the Rhine has a fierce current, rock shelves and shallows and, in winter, ice and fog. That it carries so much traffic is through a willingness to build locks, dynamite the rapids and develop suitable craft. Other Continental waterways are entirely artificial, and much of the traffic short or medium-haul. Industry is attracted by their efficiency, and the public blessed by a stimulating spectacle which London and Nottingham, for instance, sadly lack. Lorry traffic and the destruction of town centres are not disconnected.

The condescension that John Young refers to stems from lack of publicity for Continental methods, and perpetuation of the myths to which I refer.

Yours faithfully,  
JOHN LILEY,  
Inland Voyages (Bookings) Limited,  
14 The Birches,  
Widnesham Town Centre,  
Manchester.

### From first base

From Mr Martin Higham  
Sir, The chair in which I sit belonged to my great-grandfather Thorold Rogers (1823-1900). It is called the Gladstone (1809-1898) chair because it is known that he sat in it, as did Cobden (1804-1865) and Bright (1825-1899) though not of course at the same time. They probably all shook hands round, but I like to think that I am sitting in the seat of the misery.

Yours faithfully,  
MARTIN HIGHAM,  
Crayke Castle, York.



Few people need reminding of the fact that last winter was the bleakest, most treacherous in years.

It was the winter of the burst pipe, the disappearing 'B' road, and everyone's discontent.

In the North of England, the conditions were nothing short of Arctic, when Clare Tapsfield, a local vet, set out on her daily calls.

It was the afternoon of 30th December.

The roads were more suited to a one-horse open sleigh than a 66 brake horse-power saloon.

As the good lady was soon to discover, when her car skidded on a patch of ice and disappeared into a drift.

Fortunately, Miss Tapsfield walked away without so much as a bruise.

Her car, however, had more than the odd dent to show for the experience.

In fact, the damage to the bodywork was such that it simply wouldn't budge.

With the result that the gallant 'Thorpes' of Thurgoland (the nearest garage for miles) were called upon to tow it away.

Once it was safely in their care, Miss Tapsfield promptly put in a claim to us, at Commercial Union.

Whereupon, we arranged to assess the damage personally, ourselves.

On the Tuesday after the New Year's holiday, our man muffled up, and set off on the rugged road to Thurgoland.

But before he could report his findings, he first had to find the car.

To help him in this simple

task, the garage kindly suggested he use a shovel, and point him in the direction of a six-foot snowdrift.

When he eventually dug Miss Tapsfield's car out of storage, he decided that it was a saving.

And we immediately agreed to settle in full.

Then all our man had to do was dig a path to the salvage truck.

A mere 20 feet away.

We won't make a draught out of a crisis.

# Waiting for the thaw would have meant freezing the payment for Miss Tapsfield's new car.









## Stock Exchange Prices

## Day of waiting

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 24. Dealings End, April 11. Contango Day, April 14. Settlement Day, April 21

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

City Office  
Hampton &  
01-236 7851

1979-80				1979-80				1979-80				1979-80				1979-80			
High	Low	Stock	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price	High	Low	Company	Price
<b>BRITISH FUNDS</b>																			
100.00	99.50	British Funds	100.00	100.00	99.50	British Funds	100.00	100.00	99.50	British Funds	100.00	100.00	99.50	British Funds	100.00	100.00	99.50	British Funds	100.00
<b>COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Commercial and Industrial	100.00	100.00	99.50	Commercial and Industrial	100.00	100.00	99.50	Commercial and Industrial	100.00	100.00	99.50	Commercial and Industrial	100.00	100.00	99.50	Commercial and Industrial	100.00
<b>COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Commonwealth and Foreign	100.00	100.00	99.50	Commonwealth and Foreign	100.00	100.00	99.50	Commonwealth and Foreign	100.00	100.00	99.50	Commonwealth and Foreign	100.00	100.00	99.50	Commonwealth and Foreign	100.00
<b>LOCAL AUTHORITIES</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Local Authorities	100.00	100.00	99.50	Local Authorities	100.00	100.00	99.50	Local Authorities	100.00	100.00	99.50	Local Authorities	100.00	100.00	99.50	Local Authorities	100.00
<b>BANKS AND DISCOUNTS</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Banks and Discounts	100.00	100.00	99.50	Banks and Discounts	100.00	100.00	99.50	Banks and Discounts	100.00	100.00	99.50	Banks and Discounts	100.00	100.00	99.50	Banks and Discounts	100.00
<b>BREWERS AND DISTILLERS</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Brewers and Distillers	100.00	100.00	99.50	Brewers and Distillers	100.00	100.00	99.50	Brewers and Distillers	100.00	100.00	99.50	Brewers and Distillers	100.00	100.00	99.50	Brewers and Distillers	100.00
<b>INSURANCE</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Insurance	100.00	100.00	99.50	Insurance	100.00	100.00	99.50	Insurance	100.00	100.00	99.50	Insurance	100.00	100.00	99.50	Insurance	100.00
<b>INVESTMENT TRUSTS</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Investment Trusts	100.00	100.00	99.50	Investment Trusts	100.00	100.00	99.50	Investment Trusts	100.00	100.00	99.50	Investment Trusts	100.00	100.00	99.50	Investment Trusts	100.00
<b>PROPERTY</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Property	100.00	100.00	99.50	Property	100.00	100.00	99.50	Property	100.00	100.00	99.50	Property	100.00	100.00	99.50	Property	100.00
<b>RUBBER</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Rubber	100.00	100.00	99.50	Rubber	100.00	100.00	99.50	Rubber	100.00	100.00	99.50	Rubber	100.00	100.00	99.50	Rubber	100.00
<b>TEA</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Tea	100.00	100.00	99.50	Tea	100.00	100.00	99.50	Tea	100.00	100.00	99.50	Tea	100.00	100.00	99.50	Tea	100.00
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>																			
100.00	99.50	Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00	99.50	Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00	99.50	Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00	99.50	Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00	99.50	Miscellaneous	100.00



# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS

Atlas Copco  
compressed air systems.  
A force you can turn  
into profit.

Stock markets  
Index 430.3, up 3.1  
Gilt 84.40, up 0.21

### sterling

1910, up 72 pts  
ex 72.7, up 0.5

### dollar

ex 89.7, up 0.1

### gold

9.5, down \$25

### money

the sterling, 181-181  
the Euro \$ 19-19 1/4  
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### BRIEF

## may buy German government bonds

The United States Treasury said yesterday that it was considering buying German government bonds as part of its current balance of payments programme.

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## Abnormal stock levels and high interest rates depress industry

By Patricia Tisdall

Manufacturing industry's short-term prospects have deteriorated in the last month, according to the survey of trends issued by the Confederation of British Industry today.

Output is expected to dwindle to compensate for abnormally high stocks and sluggish demand. Companies' profitability and liquidity are under acute pressure from high interest rates and businessmen expect little relief from the Budget.

Stocks of finished goods have risen sharply in the last four weeks, despite the steel strike. Out of the 2,049 industrialists surveyed, 28 per cent reported that their stocks of finished goods were "more than adequate" in March, compared with 24 per cent making the same assessment a month earlier.

The abnormal build-up of stocks in anticipation of the steel strike started in November. By December the percentage balance of manufacturers reporting higher levels had more than doubled to give an index reading of 15 compared with 7 in the preceding month.

The index remained stable until February, when it climbed to 16, and the latest survey shows a further jump to 18 points, which compares with a reading of only 2 for March last year.

A downward slide in volume of output has corresponded with the increase in stock levels. The survey shows that output has swung from plus 25 to minus 12 in the last year.

Looking ahead to the next four weeks, 30 per cent of manufacturers expected a decline in output volume against

26 per cent who expected a decrease a month earlier. There has also been a drop in orders in the last month, with 81 per cent of manufacturers reporting that their total order books were below normal. In February the figure was 44 per cent.

Not surprisingly, the decline in orders is most apparent for companies in the "metal manufacture" sector. Export orders, however, although they were below average, remained fairly steady.

There were big variations in the export fortunes of different industry sectors. The chemicals, coal and petroleum sectors reported relatively strong export demand while that for textiles was weak.

In a cautious introduction to the survey, CBI economists conclude that there has been a weakening of demand for British manufactured products in the last month.

They add that the impression of less strong world demand is supported by the movement of commodity prices which have weakened noticeably in the last month, possibly by more than can be explained by the rise in world interest rates.

Adding to the squeeze on company finances caused by high interest rates is the divergence between wholesale input and output price inflation. Wholesale output prices rose by only 18 per cent in the year to February while input prices increased by nearly 29 per cent.

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26 per cent who expected a decrease a month earlier. There has also been a drop in orders in the last month, with 81 per cent of manufacturers reporting that their total order books were below normal. In February the figure was 44 per cent.

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## NCB challenged over future of coal reserves

By Bill Johnston

National Coal Board estimates that Britain has 300 years supply of coal have been challenged in a report published by The Royal Society.

The report is a collection of evidence presented to the Commission on Energy and the Environment, and concludes: "Serious doubts arise as to the justification for the National Coal Board estimate of 300 years supply of indigenous coal. By way of contrast the current operating reserves of 6,000 million tonnes lying at depths of less than 4,000 feet will be exhausted not much beyond the turn of the century."

The report does concede that there are known to be considerable quantities of coal at depths greater than 4,000 feet but that none of the methods considered for extraction at these depths looks economically promising.

Much of the controversy surrounding the forecasts of reserves in the United Kingdom would be removed if the NCB and other bodies based their estimates only on common classifications and definitions, and if the data on which their estimates were based were made publicly available, the report says.

According to the society, to attain an annual level of 170 million tonnes of production by the year 2000, as proposed by the NCB's Plan for Coal, poses problems of manpower and equipment.

As a consequence of a limited supply of manpower and equipment, the report concludes that an economy beyond the year 2000 in which coal played a major role, may best satisfy its energy needs by importing coal. This is based on the belief that a large increase in coal usage beyond 2000

would require large scale financial investment and a programme for training scientists, technologists and other skilled manpower.

The Society is, however, in no doubt that these demands could not readily be met. It concludes: "Large scale operations in Poland and elsewhere are already producing coal at a price, after transport to the United Kingdom comparable with, or cheaper than, home-mined coal."

There were problems for the environment over subsidence and the disposal of solid wastes and mine waters. A policy in which coal imports played a prominent part would help to relieve these problems.

Other effects on the environment as a result of open cast mining, feature prominently in the report. It calls for more research at university level on the reclamation of spoil disposal sites.

## Import controls rejected

A firm rejection of the philosophy of import controls was made by Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade yesterday.

In a politically oriented speech Mr Nott who was addressing the Institute of Directors annual convention in London reiterated the Government's policy of non-intervention. He made it clear that responsibility for improved trade would be left to industry.

He said it was businessmen more than Government who had direct control over employment. The message to the Government from business before the last election was for it to leave industrialists alone to run their companies and this is what it had tried to do.

In answer to a question about high interest rates, and high exchange rates, Mr Nott said that businessmen might have to wait for some time for a reduction.

With North Sea oil heading towards 3 to 4 per cent of gross domestic product an improvement would only come when the rate of interest falls. "It could be 18 months to two years before we begin to see a change", he said.

In reply to a question asking for more effective "and damp" measures for textiles, Mr Nott said that enforcement had to come through the European Commission. Even for the troubled textile industry there was no way the Government



Mr John Nott: boycotting 'overpriced' French wine.

would renegotiate the multi-fibre agreement, which limited imports, until its next expiry date.

The type of import controls recommended by Cambridge University Industrial Society would be disastrous. They would oblige Britain to leave the EEC and result in higher demand as well as causing retaliation from export markets.

Mr Nott, who has a farm in Cornwall, said he was running his own personal boycott of French wine in retaliation to the French attitude to British lamb. "I will not drink their wine, while they won't take my lamb", he told delegates.

Other speeches, page 22  
Business Diary, page 23

## US curbs overshadow Paris talks

From Peter Norman  
Brussels, March 25

Senior officials from the treasuries and central banks of the world's 10 most prosperous countries, met in Paris today against a background of mounting concern that President Carter's counter-inflation package could usher in a deep recession in all Western countries next year.

While it is generally recognized that the United States must get inflation under control, the very high American interest rates and a strong dollar are forcing other Western governments to step up greatly the stringency of their own domestic economic policies.

Senior European monetary

officials fear that the main Western countries could find themselves in recession at roughly the same time in 1981.

Moreover, the prospects for a subsequent economic recovery are considered to be less bright than during the recession of 1975 because of a higher underlying rate of inflation, reduced scope for increases in public spending, and less demand for the West's manufactured products from the Opec countries as a result of the revolution in Iran.

Today's meeting of the Group of Ten Deputies at the OECD headquarters, was called to prepare a meeting of finance ministers from the World's ten richest nations that will be held in Hamburg at the end of next month on the eve of the meeting of the interim committee

of the International Monetary Fund.

Apart from electing Herr Manfred Labusch, the State Secretary of the Bonn Finance Ministry, the chairman of the Deputies Group, today's meeting was not called to take decisions, but to carry out a general review of world economic and monetary affairs.

The Group of Ten deputies apparently concluded that there would be no immediate problems in financing the oil-induced balance of payments deficits of the industrialized countries, although difficulties could arise in the longer term.

Greater emphasis is expected to be placed on dealing with the payments deficits of the developing world.

## White House optimism on inflation

From Frank Vogl  
Washington, March 25

A senior White House official today greeted a bleak new report on consumer prices with the assertion that while the past few months may be bad, the inflation rate has peaked in February.

Mr Robert Russell, director of the Council on Wage and Price Stability, added that "we won't see any further acceleration in the overall inflation rate". He predicted that inflation will decline by late this year to an annual rate of 10 to 12 per cent from a first half year level of possibly as much as 18 per cent.

His comments to the joint

economic committee of the Congress followed figures from the Labour Department showing a 1.4 per cent seasonally adjusted gain in February in the consumer price index. This was the same rate as January and takes the annual rate, based on the past three months, to 17.2 per cent.

Other labour department figures show that real spendable earnings fell by 1.4 per cent last month and that they have declined by fully 7.3 per cent over the past 12 months.

A critical factor in the level of inflation has been the sharp rise in mortgage rates, which has possibly added more than 2 per cent to the consumer

price index annual rate in the past couple of months.

Some White House officials state privately that they are not as optimistic as Mr Russell and that the peak inflation level will not be reached until April or May.

The recognition of sharply rising inflation and interest rates and the realization that the United States may be heading for a recession has depressed Wall Street.

Stock prices fell dramatically yesterday and even though there was some recovery early today and Dow Jones index has fallen by over 40 points since President Carter announced his anti-inflation programme

## Pre-Budget rush for consumer durables

By Derek Harris

Readers were grateful but puzzled yesterday at what appears to be a jump in pre-Budget buying of consumer durables and other hard furnishings in the home.

They were puzzled because the Chancellor is not expected to make any radical changes to value-added tax. Sales of spirits, wines and cigarettes, items on which the Chancellor has been widely expected to increase taxes, have finally shown some sharp increases over the past few days but the rush does not appear to have reached remarkable proportions.

The Comet Radiovision discount chain has seen sharp sales increases in consumer durables of every category in the past week and Mr Richard Peers, Comet's managing director, believes that after allowing for inflation there has been at least a 15 per cent increase because of pre-Budget buying.

He said: "Our actual sales increases have been far above

this but after allowing for our recent marketing push and other factors there seems definitely to have been a pre-Budget rush."

The rise in hard furnishings sales has not been even everywhere's experience—Selfridges, part of Sears Holdings department store chain, reported household goods sales up but "nothing special" on durables, although returns from the John Lewis Partnership's department stores show marked increases. In the week ended March 15, the John Lewis stores saw radio and television sales increase by 35.9 per cent compared with the same period last year.

Speculation about the Chancellor's likely increases on duties for drinks and tobacco—around £1 a bottle or more on spirits—has been widely forecast and possibly 10p on a packet of 20 king-size cigarettes—has brought people to the shops this week. But Tesco Stores reported an increased demand but "not really a rush with brandy as the most popular buy."

session. Legislation would however be introduced as soon as possible.

Mr Howell has fought a losing battle to find a way through the complexities of bringing in a Bill which would create a separate North Sea company in which shares could be offered in time for negotiations to take place over the reassignment of participation agreements so that a share sale could be used to reduce the 1980/81 PSBR.

It would have been possible to introduce a Bill to offer a London and Scottish Maritime Oil-trust loan stock which would have had a royalty element related to offshore production quickly, but this would not have reduced the PSBR figure.

## Ninian helps Lasmo to £23m profit

By Adrienne Gleeson

London & Scottish Marine Oil, which took over Oil Exploration last November and secured its place as Britain's fourth biggest oil company, yesterday announced a swing from losses of £10.73m pre-tax (including Exploration) in 1978 to profits of £23.44m last year.

The turnaround—to a figure slightly higher than forecast—started with a very early start because the Ninian field in the North Sea, in which Lasmo has a 7.79 per cent interest, is now producing oil.

With total revenues last year up from a comparable £4.58m to £63.59m, Lasmo has started to make a profit. The company incurred the huge development costs of £139m so far. Early repayment of £8.8m of unsecured bank loans brought bank borrowings down to £48.7m at the end of December.

The group is continuing to spend on the other oil exploration ventures—in the North Sea, the Philippines and Sharjah—which it acquired with Oil Exploration. In all, capital spending amounted to £30.5m last year, of which £24.7m was attributable to Ninian.

After a tax charge reduced by a change in the method of apportioning petroleum revenue tax, Lasmo produced a surplus of £8.69m in 1979 against a deficit of £11.58m in the preceding year. The surplus has been applied in reducing the accumulated deficit on shareholders' funds.

## Bowring bid escapes Monopolies reference

By Richard Allen

Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade, has decided against a Monopolies Commission reference for the controversial £235m takeover bid for T. Bowring by Marsh & McLennan, the American insurance brokers.

The decision means that Bowring, whose interests also include the Bowmaker credit finance group and Singer & Friedlander merchant bank, has lost a possibly crucial round in its long-running battle to avoid falling under American control.

Immediate stock market reaction was mixed. Bowring shares 10p to 143p yesterday.

This is still about 16p below the value of Marsh's cash and share bid for the ordinary capital and reflects the possibility that the bid could still fall at regulatory hurdles in the United States.

Marsh & McLennan is still awaiting clearance to make a formal offer from the Securities and Exchange Commission, while the American Justice Department is understood to be considering possible anti-trust implications.

However, there is no doubt that the American group saw the possibility of a Monopolies Commission reference as the greatest obstacle to its takeover ambitions. Marsh has discounted suggestions that the bid

could be deflected as a result of President Carter's anti-inflation package or high borrowing costs in the United States.

Mr Gil Cooke, Bowring's managing director, said yesterday that he was "intensely disappointed" by Mr Nott's decision. He added: "We still believe we have good reasons for defending ourselves against this bid and we are increasingly concerned that the present price offered is inadequate."

He said that despite some strengthening in the value of the dollar a drop in Marsh's share price had reduced the value of the cash and

equity bid by more than 10p a share since the American group first announced its offer.

Although Bowring put forward several strong reasons that it felt the United States bid should be blocked in its submissions to the Office of Fair Trading, it is understood that there was little support for the group's case from other parties including rival British insurance brokers.

It is understood that in recommending no action by Mr Nott, the OFT had been swayed by the fact that Bowring had been openly considering pooling its insurance interests with Marsh before a takeover move.

## 8p off in cut price petrol war

By Nicholas Hirst

A petrol price war has broken out in the north of England. Independent garages not tied to the multinational oil companies are offering cut price petrol at up to 8p lower than the average price in the south.

The main petrol companies in the United Kingdom, Esso, Shell, BP and Mobil, are beginning to feel the pinch, industry sources say, and if price cutting continues a return to the price support system of 1977/78 when the multinationals subsidised their retailers is a possibility.

But the slight glut of products on the market is not expected to be nearly as severe as it was two years ago and could prove a very temporary phenomenon.

Even so, the easy availability of supplies and the cut price deals being offered by some retailers in the United Kingdom, coupled with the fall in day to day profit margins on the Rotterdam oil market, have created a markedly different situation to that of six months ago.

The drive to a reduction in prices, with some petrol stations selling four star for as low as 114p a gallon compared to an average 121p in the south, has been helped by the tendency of

hypermarkets to use petrol as a loss leader to attract more custom.

At the same time petrol sales have risen by 10 per cent during the first two months, but a fall in the overall sales of petroleum products of 13 per cent has kept supplies flowing freely.

The price cutting in the north is thought unlikely to spread southwards. It is influenced by the proximity of refineries and the easy access of shipments from the Rotterdam market with the willingness of the smaller United Kingdom majors to compete for market share.

## Medminster Limited Furniture Hire, Shipping and Freight Agents

Interim Statement for the six months ended 31st December, 1979			
	1979	1978	
	£	£	
Turnover			
Shipping and Freight Agencies	4,791,742	2,098,849	
Furniture Hire and Sale	307,085	276,463	
Profit before Taxation but after interest and depreciation	105,424	96,320	
Taxation	61,000	54,750	
Profit after Taxation	44,424	41,570	
Interim Dividend 1979 (1978 10p)	22,000	20,000	
Retained Profit	£22,424	£21,570	

Our shipping and freight interests have had a very busy half year, as will be seen from the enlarged turnover. This has also been reflected, of course, in the division's profits. The increased level of activity appears to be continuing.

It will be noted that furniture hire turnover has also increased and normally this would have resulted in higher profits but, during the period in which I am reporting, Medminster mounted two major promotions, mainly concerned with the creation of the two new divisions, Camden Furniture Hire in London and Freight Agencies Macpak in Liverpool.

19th March, 1980

and the cost of these promotions has been charged in the period.

In the last half year, furniture hire turnover for films and amateur theatres was somewhat down but this was more than compensated for by the other activities of our furniture hire division, i.e. conferences, sports tournaments, conventions, exhibitions, television, etc.

We continue to invest in all classes and types of furniture and furnishings, and in a period of high inflation our stock is a valuable asset.

JOHN DELANEY  
Chairman

## PRICE CHANGES

wer	7p to 82p
UK	10p to 110p
	10p to 143p
SA	17c to 165c
	10p to 236p
land	20p to 408p
	51p to 512p
III	15p to 585p
Id	13p to 490p
Gold	25c to 510c

## THE POUND

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
buy	buy	buy	buy
1.5	2.97	2.95	11.19
32	2.97	2.95	106.50
Fr	72.90	68.50	1.75
S	2.66	2.59	9.38
Kr	13.45	12.90	3.89
Mk	8.50	8.50	2.18
DM	8.33	8.33	49.50
Dr	89.50	85.50	
5	11.25	10.85	
Pd	1.14	1.10	
	1975.00	1885.00	
en	569.00	544.00	
nds Gld	4.74	4.51	

## Professor details plans to help state industries

## Putting on a new public face

Fundamental changes in the financing, organisational structure and relationships of Britain's nationalised industries were argued last night by Professor John Heath when he presented the second annual lecture to the Nationalised Industries Chairman's Group.

Professor Heath, who is professor of economics at the London Business School, said that attempts to increase the level of private sector participation would only work if the behaviour of Governments changed fundamentally towards public enterprises. "The problem is how best to achieve that change. My doubt is whether 51 per cent ownership would do it on a lasting basis. Minority ownership has a marginally better chance."

Among the factors needed to improve the performance of the state sector were simplified investment approval and financing operations so that they were more in line with private sector practice.

One possibility would be for the Treasury to set up a merchant bank division which would supply loan packages to meet the individual needs of public enterprises, Professor Heath said.

As long as such proposals fell within the framework of strategies approved by a sponsoring minister and did not involve government subsidies, there would be no reason why commercial criteria should not apply.

"The Treasury merchant bank could receive its annual entitlement to funds either through the National Loans Fund or more directly. Experience in assessing external financing requirements would be concentrated in a business-based part of the Treasury instead of being dispersed among several departments", he said.

Professor Heath said that Governments should abandon attempts to impose financial targets and allow or perhaps require that public corporations should determine their own targets in the light of the government's policies and business circumstances. The current array of controls suggested that the Government did not trust public enterprises.

Peter Hill







BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Lasmo's Ninian build-up

ers in Lasmo are not yet reaping its of their venture into the high-1 of independent oil exploration: the looks of the 1979 results they e long in coming. The figures are her better than those forecast last , at the time of the bid for Oil m, with 1978s £10.73m loss (on a le basis) transformed into a profit n above the line, and a change in d of calculating petroleum revenue cut the charge by £3.5m) helping e a net surplus of £8.65m.

moment this is just being applied g the accumulated deficit on share- unds (now down to £17.61m), but an's output still rising, and comit- row Hewett and Bates oil in the he Oil Ex acquisition, this year will effit wiped out and dividend pay- gun.

of the Oil Production Stock which sed in 1976 as a sweetener to its nt unsecured loan stock issue, a e benefitting from the Ninian already: after an 11.82p net pay- ut at the interim stage, they are eceive another 30.98p per unit net l.

position has effectively been ed over the past year—and not nancial position, though thanks to yment, borrowings were down to e end of December, despite ending of £30.5m during the year.

important in the short-term: but ificant in the long run is the fact o has, with the acquisition of Oil n, secured itself a future after e out. The success of the drilling e—in the North Sea, the Philip- d Sharih—is likely to be more l for the shares (off 3p to 440p on og yesterday) than the dividend ; but the immediate prospect of a 'turn will not do them any harm.

&amp; Law

end

S

or not noted for dramatic gestures, Law caused a ripple of excitement when it pushed up its dividend er cent at the cross level. That set the market wondering about similarly generous dividend ill emerge from the life assurance Prudential and Legal & General, y publish results today.

t. Equity & Law's dividend is d by earnings up from 8.6p to share; it is able to do this by own unappropriated surplus cash. bviously a once-off exercise which y feels justified in doing given the dividend restraint and the fact that little point in retaining substantial ble funds.

has implications for dividends u. few years. They should continue longside the pattern of controlled hich Equity & Law can foresee but earnings now have to catch up. short-term it could help the shares, ding nearly 8 per cent with the 98p and thus about 13 points above r average. A share, then, that a good way into a sector which ide the recession with equanimity more than can be said for many l stocks.

&amp; Colman

ry in

1 America

f all the usual troubles now gar- at United Kingdom manufacturing lity—high interest rates, sterling's and slack demand—Reckitt's 1979 has been hit by particular diffi- a its North American operations, combination of the two pushed pre-

tax profits down from £613m to £51m last year.

North American profits slumped from £7.8m to only £1.4m chiefly due to excess capacity in potato processing with the performance of the mainstream food retailing side good apart from last year's Morton acquisition.

Elsewhere in North America the Sunset leisure division made up its first half setback although heavy losses in a part of Winsor & Newton offset this. But Reckitt has shown a welcome ability to chop out the loss-makers and profits should recover sharply in 1980.

The other problem area was Brazil where price controls and inflation halved profits to £2m. Otherwise it was largely a matter of swings and roundabouts geographically. But for a group earning four-fifths of its profits overseas, Reckitt has been buffeted by the strength of sterling with squeezed export margins trimming £11m from profits and the conversion of overseas profits in Australia and New Zealand in local currency terms virtually disappearing.

After exchange movements on current assets of £7m and £5.2m of closure costs in North America, retentions slumped from £21.1m to a shade under £5m, and the cash outflow—with a £48m capital spending programme—rose £111m to £73m. The £26m rise in borrowings pushed interest charges up from £4.8m to £8.5m although the still strong balance sheet with gearing only up from 29 to 37 per cent does not point to any immediate need for its first ever rights issue, especially with the way working capital has been kept under control.

Faced with another cash outflow this year, the tighter financial position over the last couple of years must have been a factor behind Reckitt's decision to scale down its pharmaceutical ambitions, and it is now not planning to move more deeply into the ethical market.

Selling on eight times fully taxed earnings, which are unlikely to show underlying growth of much more than a tenth this year, and yielding 7.1 per cent at 172p, with the dividend also growing more slowly after last year's exceptional 41 per cent in the gross to 12.1p only just covered by current cost earnings, the shares have well and truly lost their glamour rating as the Beecham of the 1980s and are likely to move in line with sterling where only a small decline would put the group back on its growth track.

### United Newspapers

#### Still trading strongly

Recessionary fears and talk of a fall in overall advertising revenues of as much as 5 per cent this year has cast a shadow over the newspaper industry and provincial groups (who rely heavily on job advertising) in particular after three years of burgeoning profits.

But whether or not United Newspapers' 19 per cent profits jump to £8.2m for the full-year represents the peak of a cycle, the group is not pessimistic.

A 54 per cent increase in total net dividends to a level still 2.6 times covered, the promise of a one-for-one scrip, and news that results so far this year are well ahead of last, were enough for the market to lift the shares 12p to 405p.

Advertising revenues advanced 24 per cent last year with volume rising 10 per cent and United claims that so far at least there have been no signs of a significant fall off.

The shares now yield of 8.5 per cent and are on fully-taxed p/e ratio of around 7 and look solid enough with the only real doubts centring on the long-term challenge from local radio and other incursions into newspapers' traditional markets. Bolstered by cash of £6.7m—almost £1 a share—the group should be able to keep profits around the £8m mark this year unless there is a really dramatic shakeout in advertising or the current dispute with the National Graphical Association digs in.

Data bank legislation in foreign countries could hurt UK industry. Rory Johnston reports

## Do computers really threaten our privacy?

We are used to the idea of national frontiers being barriers to the passage of people and goods, but traditionally information has flowed across them unhindered, at least in the non-communist world. There are signs that this is about to change.

International companies—in particular—are very worried that their communications, and hence their ability to do business, will be severely hampered as restrictions are imposed by various countries on what is becoming known as "transborder data flow".

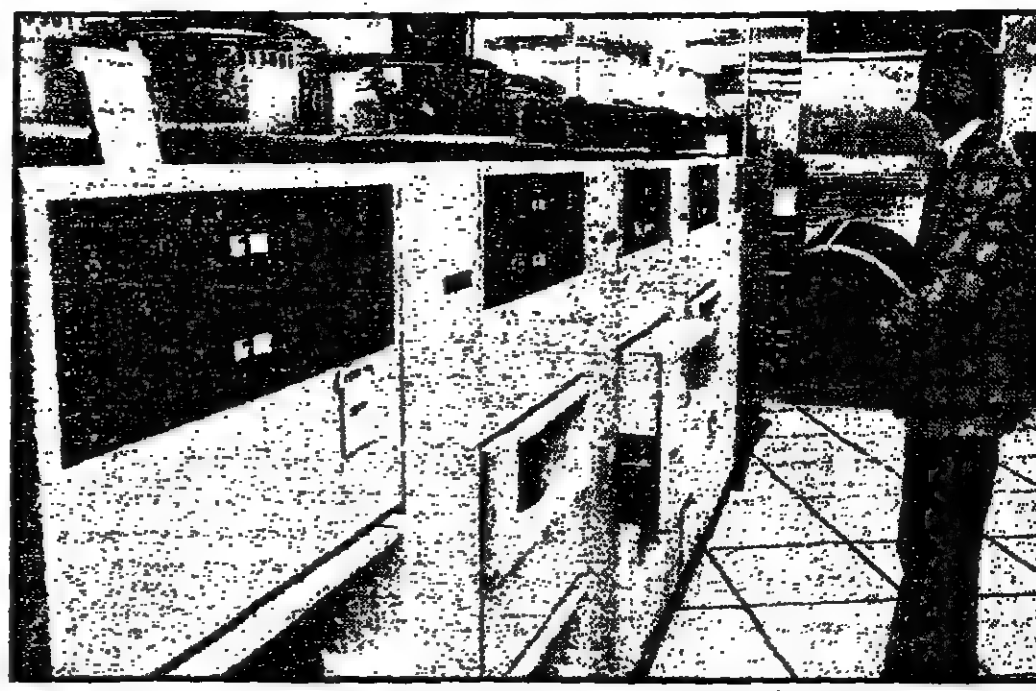
Concern over personal privacy is the reason cited most often by governments for controlling transborder data flow. Laws are being imposed in several countries on the operation of computer data banks. In order to prevent evasion of controls these laws must include restrictions on the sending of data to other countries where there are no such laws—the so-called "data havens".

Britain is one of the latter, and British businessmen are becoming worried that foreign governments may cut off such vital flows of information from overseas subsidiaries and trading partners as personal files, payroll accounts, information on orders from private customers and address lists for mail order operations. This, it is feared, would bring much profitable activity to a halt.

What can we do? The answer, put forward by several pressure groups and trade associations, is that we should pass laws to control data banks. But would such legislation in fact effectively protect personal privacy?

It could be a colossal and expensive bureaucratic intrusion into the activities of both companies and individuals. It would be absurd for us to pass such legislation in fact, because other countries misguidedly thought them a good idea.

The argument over "data protection" has been going on for more than a decade. The "privacy lobby" claims that the accumulation of information about individuals is a threat to the privacy of those concerned, and that such information would enable governments and



A computer data bank: British businessmen are worried that foreign governments may cut off vital flows of information.

large corporations to infringe people's rights.

How exactly they would do this is not specified, but concern over the matter has been strong enough to induce several countries to bring in legislation. In West Germany, a data ombudsman has been appointed to oversee the implementation of the law, and in Sweden, France, Austria and Norway, the individual is given the legal right to see information held about him and change it if he desires.

A scheme for United Kingdom legislation was put forward by Sir Norman Lindop's Data Protection Committee in December 1978 and it has been gathering dust in the Home Office ever since. Under the Lindop proposals, a Data Protection Authority (DPA) would be set up which would maintain a register of data banks, operations—including those of central and local government—and would lay down codes of practice.

The DPA would act as its own enforcement agency and would have powers to enter premises and bring prosecutions. But

does the notion of trying to control computer data by legislation make sense at all? A growing body of opinion both inside and outside the computer industry thinks not.

There is a shortage of hard evidence that computers are causing an invasion of privacy. The Lindop committee, the Younger committee before it, and the United States Privacy Study Commission were all unable to find any significant examples, despite years of investigation. In instances quoted by others, it usually turns out that the computer is not the real culprit, and that such wrongs as there are can be dealt with under existing laws.

At a conference of local authorities on the subject of data protection one computer manager said: "We are in danger of legislating against witchcraft."

Certainly much of the public's fear of computers stems from an exaggerated idea of what they can do. The notion of one huge nationwide data bank containing everyone's personal details is intriguing but

in reality not a practical proposition. The automatic correlation of data from different sources is much more difficult than people imagine.

Even if controls were necessary or desirable, they still could not achieve what they set out to do. At a computer industry lobby presentation to MPs at Westminster recently the data processing manager of a large international concern commented: "I use a computer network with access points in 26 countries including a public call box in Peru. How can any Data Protection Authority hope to find out what I am doing with my data, where?"

It is broadly agreed, even by Sir Norman Lindop, that any one who is determined to hide data in a computer system will succeed. As for cross-border controls, miniaturization and other technical developments are making data smuggling an easy proposition.

Even among supporters of the principle of data protection laws, there is serious doubt about the efficacy of the Lindop proposals. One speaker at the Westminster meeting was worried about how one could

tell which of the plethora of codes of practice one must abide by. Mr Ken Potts, chief executive of Leeds City Council and a member of the Lindop committee, has expressed serious reservations about the fact that the DPA would be yet another quango and that it was not at all clear how it would choose to exercise its power.

No two people define privacy in the same way, nor are two countries' definitions the same either. The laws which have been enacted vary widely in their provisions, and this is another reason why the free flow of information internationally could be restricted.

At present, three different international bodies, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the EEC, are trying to work out how to harmonize different national laws.

Several countries are members of all three bodies, so which harmonization scheme should they follow? Who will harmonize the harmonizers? The OECD's efforts have fallen into disarray for the time being and the Council of Europe has no power other than persuasion, but the EEC may eventually try to force data protection laws on its members.

The situation is further complicated by the fact that some governments are interested in cross-border data controls for reasons other than privacy—for instance, economic protection for its own data processing industry, or a desire to manipulate news and other information for political purposes.

What is Britain to do? Can we hope to persuade our neighbours that their well-meaning efforts are misguided? Or will the confusion simply continue until their errors become self-evident?

Certainly the Government shows no signs of backing down. It is because it agrees with the opponents of legislation or simply has had more pressing things to think about is not clear. Perhaps this is just as well. For all the ramifications of these issues, the adjustments in Parliament could take a great deal of time.

The author is Public Affairs Editor of Computer Weekly.

### Tony Emerson

## Argentina's motor industry savaged by competition

Buenos Aires

In just over a year Argentina's motor industry has undergone major changes. General Motors and Citroen have ceased production. Chrysler and the small state-owned companies, have sold out to Volkswagen.

Vehicle imports, effectively prohibited since 1961, were permitted again last year and importers have already captured 7.5 per cent of the domestic market.

From a record of 22 vehicle manufacturers in 1960 there now remain only four—Ford, Renault, Fiat/Peugeot and Volkswagen. Purely commercial vehicles are also made by Mercedes-Benz, Scania and Deutz. The big shakeout was forced by the decision of General Motors in late 1978 to cease production. The American car giant had seen its share of the Argentinian market dropping year by year. Tensions in these events is varied.

Supporters of Dr Martinez de Hoz, the economics minister, welcome them in the name of rationalization. Those who see Argentina's future as a power-house of heavy industry—they call themselves Desarrollistas (Developmentists)—attack the government for policies of deindustrialization and selling out to foreign interests. Since 1964 more than four million motor vehicles have been built in Argentina. Last

year the figure was 233,000, putting the country in the same bracket as Belgium, Yugoslavia and East Germany. There are seven Argentine firms for each motor vehicle in the country, compared with a proportion of 3:1 in Britain.

The country has become increasingly dependent on motor vehicles for its general transport. Two vehicles in every seven are commercial ones (compared with one in eight in Britain), 88 per cent of far-paying passengers travel by bus, and despite Argentina's cereal production, lorries carry seven times more goods than the railways.

In 1970 the Argentine car industry had sort itself out behind protective barriers into ten finishing plants and rather more than a thousand suppliers and component manufacturers. In theory, the time had come to open the gates to competition, but in fact the most remarkable coup was staged by a group of component manufacturers.

Legislation in 1971 not only continued to prohibit car imports, but forbade the import of any component, unless the local component manufacturer had told the government that they could not produce it, and had no objection to the imports. The law limited the total value of imported components (which were subject to a heavy duty) to 4 per cent of the value of the vehicle.

New models could not be

launched without a minimum number of the replaced model having been produced. This measure was supported by an important sector of the army whose industrial empire, Fabricaciones Militares, had got control of much of the iron and steel industry and was producing steel (as it does today) with outdated technology at a price well above the international one.

By and large it is not in the Argentine nature to compete by price cutting and certain questionable means of discouraging such unArgentine behaviour succeeded in raising the profit margins of component manufacturers to anything between 200 and 800 per cent.

When Ford attempted to counter this grab by buying the axle manufacturer, Transax, it became the victim of a propaganda campaign, in which the component manufacturers joined. Ford and Transax executives were then singled out by terrorists in a wave of kidnapping and assassination. Other finishing plants thereafter tried to buy a component manufacturer.

It was not surprising that the instant fortunes of the

early 1970s were made by suppliers to the car industry, but that some of their former leading lights are living in exile with criminal charges pending against them.

By 1977 Argentine cars were costing more than twice the price of their foreign equivalents, their designs had been frozen to those of the sixties and, of the price which the purchaser paid, the finishing plant saw less than 20 per cent. In all fairness they were also tougher and more solid than equivalent models in the northern hemisphere.

When the liberalising team of Dr Martinez de Hoz took over the country's economic policy, a change in the law was inevitable. But vested interests, including military ones, delayed and modified the new legislation until a watershed down version was finally passed in January, 1979.

Under this law new cars may be imported, but bear a 95 per cent duty on their price. This duty will be reduced to 55 per cent by 1982.

Lorries may be imported with a duty of 65 per cent, to be reduced to 45 per cent in 1982.

Plants may choose which components to import, but the maximum proportion in cars is 5 per cent, rising to 12 per cent in 1982, and in lorries 15 per cent, rising to 25 per cent.

Mild, not to say highly protectionist, though the legislation may seem, it has wonderfully concentrated the minds of the motor industry. Plans which do not have the confidence to modernize and compete are being put off the race or switching (as in the case of Citroen) to the distribution and service of imported cars.

Those which have decided to go ahead under the new rule are taking advantage of a highly valued peso to reequip cheaply. Ford have announced plans to invest \$250m, over five years, in the new merged Fiat/Peugeot will bring in over \$200m of equipment in a shorter period. Volkswagen is starting to build models from scratch and inevitably the Japanese have been first off the mark to organize sales and spares networks for their imported cars, thus fulfilling in part the fears of manufacturers that the new legislation would open the door to cheap Japanese and Brazilian vehicles.

## Business Diary: Girl torque • Zimbabwe and IoD

t it, that the member- United Kingdom n of Business and Pro- Women should have ch a dive since the y and Sex Discrimina- tional Acts came in? 1970 and came into in 1975, the year that Discrimination Act sw. Membership of the , whose forty-first onference takes place ous next month, on a 40-year high of 3,000 in 1968-1969 to 444 branches (1975) in 407 branches last lowest in three

ing to general secre- nor Young, however, ity legislation does not such "hearing" on the

president, Audrey ells me: "We are self- vome to be able to go ork, and now they have ougher women are too h job and with house- come to meetings." urner, a lecturer, adds federation how encour- establishment of per- rather than city-centre in clubs to make it r women to attend.

about time my opposi- on The Financial n the Men and Matters thought up a new and ogynistic title? When y those male chauvinist Bracken House of ights stockists it had to be worn by a man—a judge nomial costume.

Flora and Peter Rowe were among the small Rhodesian delegation at yesterday's annual convention of the Institute of Directors at the Royal Albert Hall.

Mrs Rowe, who owns a secretarial agency in Salisbury, is the secretary of the IoD's Central Africa branch. Peter Rowe is the local manager of the French airline UTA.

Today she will be at the IoD's headquarters in Pall Mall discussing how to strengthen the Salisbury-based IoD branch. "If ever there was a need for a voice for private enterprise, it is going to be right now", she told me.

Membership, about 500 when UDI was declared, took a dive because of anti-British feeling but now, thanks to the efforts of Mrs Rowe and branch stalwarts, it is back roughly to its old level.

There are about 10 black members, and new applications, The trend towards more budgets looks like being followed by another towards more Chambers. The Confederation of British Industry, I hear, is to launch a competition in the women's magazine. Family Circle to find a lady who would make a good Chancellor.

The winner will take home £1,000, a most useful contribution to any family budget. Details are to be printed in the October issue of the magazine, and the final will be held in London in March—just before the next Budget.

This is not a pre-Budget hint to Sir Geoffrey Howe to move over. Two of the ten CBI directors are headed by women, Dorothy Drake (information) and Sonia Rifkin (small firms),



Never on our knees: Rhodesian delegates Flora and Peter Rowe and IoD packed lunch in London yesterday.

from black and white, are coming in every week. Mrs Rowe is firm that blacks shall not be admitted for window dressing, but because they have jobs entering them to membership.

One man's meat... Whether or not Sir Geoffrey's Budget will be good for Tory digestion remains to be seen, but it has already stuck in the throat of former Tory MP Charles Simons.

Simons set up the two-day conference on Control of Toxic Substances and proposed United States/EEC legislation thereon, which starts in London today. He had the wheeze of suggesting that companies sending people along should take a chimney M.P. with them.

In the event, ICL, Hoechst, La Porte, and IML were among those who agreed—but now, Simons says, only one parliamentarian, the Tory Michael Grylls, will be there. He is going as the guest of Hoechst.

For a man who makes his money knocking things down, Sid Hunt spends a lot of his time building up the demolition industry.

He is executive editor of the industry magazine *Demolition and Dismantling*, representative of the National Federation of Demolition Contractors, honorary secretary of the Institute of Demolition Engineers, managing director of Southern Demolition and the industry's "Man of the Year".

Recently he has been out on demolition sites not knocking things down but directing a film about the industry. This will replace a documentary, filmed by Yorkshire Television in the early 1970s, called *Bring the House Down*.

Up-dating is needed he says, because of changes in health and safety legislation, which, for example, have introduced controls on working with asbestos and lead paint.

Hunt says that it is hard work improving the reputation of the industry, because of the many "cowboy" companies working outside the self-policing federation.

The Department of Employment saying that to save money no more notices of industrial tribunal hearings will be despatched. The announcement adds that only a third of the cases listed actually get as far as a hearing anyway. One wonders, therefore, whether the tribunal system itself could stand some pruning. The lists are to go, but is this not a case of chopping off the leaves rather than the branches?

Ross Davies

## Fairview Estates Limited

INTERIM STATEMENT

6 MONTHS ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 1979

Unaudited Results	6 Months to 31 Dec 79	6 Months to 31 Dec 78
Turnover	2000	2000
	16,402	12,219
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	4,801	2,338
Taxation	(380)	(234)
Profit After Taxation	4,441	2,104
Interim Dividend	855	295
Net Amount per share	8.3p	2.75p
EARNINGS PER SHARE	41.3p	11.9p

A profit for the six months to the 31st December 1979 of £4,801m was earned. No industrial property was sold during this period. One housing site sale took place but this did not contribute significantly to the profits.

An interim dividend of 3.3p net will be paid on the 9th May to Shareholders registered on the 28th April 1980, an increase of 22%. The Company's contracted Rent Roll now stands at £2,870m. This does not include several rent reviews upon which the due date has passed but the revised rentals are still to be agreed. When agreement is reached the contracted Rent Roll will be well over £3m.

The Company has several substantial lettings under negotiation and is making good progress with the development programme of sites in hand. The outlook in this division is most satisfactory with strictly controlled exposure, essential in today's uncertain climate. House sales during the six months to December 1979 were buoyant with improved margins maintained. However, as anticipated, the market is now more difficult with increased building costs again ending profit margins to a degree.

The borrowing level is currently being reduced and the Company's Balance Sheet will be stronger still at the year end, 30th June 1980. Shareholders should be aware that the present high level of profit represents part of the stated policy to quickly reduce housing land stocks, generate cash to reduce borrowing and thus enable further progress to be made in the transition from pure house-building to property investment/development company. It is not intended to maintain this rate of earning growth, bearing in mind the resolve to reduce the Company's present level of housing activities.

D. J. COPE, Chairman  
25th March 1980.

Confidence to work places to be

Fairview



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Gilts boosted by last-minute buyers

The last day of waiting before Sir Geoffrey Howe's second Budget kept the stock markets quiet. Equities firmed gradually during the day after opening easier following Wall Street's 9 point fall overnight.

Gilts also managed to hold steady at the former levels of the previous night encouraged by rumours and hopes that the Budget package would contain some strong investment incentives.

There was some activity in certain equity sectors, including insurance, following the announcement that Marsh and McLennan's bid for C. T. Bowring, which gained 10p to 143p, would be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

A crop of results started yesterday with Equity and Law Life Assurance's dividend boost, 4 up at 198p, also helped the sector, particularly the brokers. Oils once again proved to be among the liveliest stocks with the prospect of a fourth bid for Viking Oil and Lasso's figures, which were about £1m higher than expected.

Properties also received a pre-Budget boost in the almost certain belief that stamp duty would be reduced to 1 per cent with an additional fillip from the less certain possibility that capital gains tax will be reduced.

But dealers were emphatic that today's measures, nicknamed the "wait and see" Budget, will shift the market 15 points in either direction, despite the absence of any large numbers of speculative buyers in this three week account.

The FT Index, which saw its lowest point in the first hour of trading when it went down 1.9 to 425.3, started to climb after lunch and closed up 3.1 at 430.3.

Gilts, which saw some buyers coming in at the last minute before the Budget, ended the day with longs up to £1 better although most were £1 improved and shorts, which reported a dull day, with occasional £1/16 falls after hours, also finished about £1 up.

Among the leading industrial stocks, Becaun proved to be one which provided the most business, but by the close the

Fast growing English Association of American Bond and Share Holders saw profits jump from £77,000 to £218,000 in the first half and is now firmly on course for at least £500,000 pre-tax for the year to June against £381,000 last time.

Share price had lost 2p to 117p. Glaxo finished at 246p, 2p lower. ICI was among the few to add a couple of pence and ended the day at 370p.

Fisons dropped 5p to 264p while Unilever lost 1p to 415p. Courtaulds and BAT Industries were unchanged at 69p and 231p respectively, as was Pilkington at 213p. Rank gained 3p to 199p.

News that Berkeley Exploration, the recently launched offshoot of KCA International, had negotiated a farm-in with Shell on Block 28/5A pushed the share price up 6p to 113p while Shell itself lost 2p to 336p.

BP and Ultramar were among those which gained as fears that the Chancellor would impose stringent windfall profit taxes and increase petroleum revenue tax have somewhat dissipated and even discounted by investors. BP closed at 336p, up 4p and Ultramar added 6p to 484p. The high flyer of the last

account, Seibens, lost 10p early in the day but finished at 550p. Viking Oil, which was suspended during the day 10p up at 1090p, awaited its fourth bid in as many weeks and dealers believe that the price could eventually go as high as £14 a share.

Among the other oil stocks, Tri control was unchanged at 278p after last week's profits and Lasso after its announcement, saw profit takers move in and closed at 440p, down 3p.

Other companies which reported figures included Brent Chemicals which called for a rights issue with its full-year figures and added 4p to 226p. Redditt and Colman's disappointing results, because of its North American problems and the strength of sterling, saw the share price fall 2p to 172p while among the stores, Stag Furniture gained 4p to 192p with good profits. Bamber's Stores, which also produced good profits, 47 per cent up, lost 4p to 93p.

United Newspapers' figures boosted the share price 12p to 405p. (Speculation in Amalgamated Power continued with a further boost of 7p to 82p but J. Sainsbury took a 7p knock to 293p after a brokers' circular stressed increased competition.

The continuing ups and downs of bullion, which fell 25p to \$340.5 yesterday, combined with the South African budget, pushed gold shares down almost without exception. West Driefontein dropped 2½ to 56p, F. S. Geduld followed suit losing 93p to \$504 while Middle Wits fell 9p to 410p.

Among the London financials, Rio Tinto-Zinc held on to finish unchanged at 355p but Consolidated Gold Fields lost 4p to

491p. Rustenburg, following the trend in metals prices, was 230p, down 4p.

In the Australian, there was a general lack of interest after the losses built up during the last account and most of the stocks were down on the day. Woodside dropped 3p to 93p. Otter dipped 4p to 66p and Samantha finished 2p lower at 70p. MIM Holdings saw an even sharper fall of 8p to 205p and Western Mining closed 6p down at 134p.

The insurance sector was busier with results due today from Prudential unchanged at

This account should see the final drilling report of the Siebens Marathon test bore in the North Sea. The recent renewed strength in the share price suggests that the results should prove substantial oil and gas finds. The share price remained steady at 550p yesterday.

169p, and Legal and General up 1p to 162p. Guardian Royal Exchange added 10p to 136p but Commercial Union slipped 1p to 127p. General Accident gained 2p to 225p and Sun Alliance dipped 2p to 534p.

Of the brokers, C. E. Heath gained 2p to 208p and Willis Faber lost 2p to 246p. Properties hardened slightly with a few large buyers in the hope that the Budget would provide capital gains tax concessions which dealers believe will lead to a rash of takeovers. By the end of the day there were few sellers. EPM was unchanged at 191p with Peachey and Haslemere showing no price movement at 128p and 292p respectively. Land Securities gained 1p to 291p.

Renewed suggestions that Sims Darby will offer a £10 a share bid for Guntur boosted the price 2p to 840p, but London and Sumatra lost 10p to 385p and Killinghall dipped 5p to 515p, as did fell 13p to 490p after its results and Harrison's Malay, with interim figures out today, went down 3p to 167p.

Equity turnover for March 24 was \$54.44m (number of bargains 13,986). The most active stocks, according to Exchange Telegraph, were BP, C. T. Bowring, Shell, BAT Industries, Becaun, and Courtaulds.

## Wardle directors resign after takeover

Two directors of plastics group Bernard Wardle, who have been on the board at least seven years, have suddenly resigned.

A terse statement issued to the Stock Exchange yesterday said their resignations followed the success of the takeover bid from Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey's company, Ferguson Investments.

It was announced last Friday that Mr Lacey's new company had received 58.5 per cent acceptance for his 33p a share offer and with shares already owned he controlled 88.4 per cent of Wardle.

One of the directors, Mr Eric Dodson is a senior partner of the Manchester-based firm of Addleshaw Sons & Latham, solicitors to Bernard Wardle.

The other is Mr John McLaren Morris, also chairman and managing director of London-based public relations group Leeder.

Neither was available for comment last night. Remaining directors of Bernard Wardle declined to comment yesterday but said they hoped to make a statement "within 24 hours".

That should follow the board meeting due to be held today when it is widely expected Mr Lacey will carry through his plan to install himself and fellow Ferguson Investment owner, 70-year-old Mr Cecil McBride, on the Wardle board. Mr Lacey will also replace current chairman Mr Ronald Kent.

Meanwhile there was an emergency meeting of shop stewards of Wardle's threatened Everflex factory in Caernarvon, last night. Mr Lacey met them last Friday afternoon and said that a statement was likely to be issued on Wednesday to close the factory with the loss of 332 local jobs.

## Options

The last day before the Budget, which the options dealers hope will herald the tax changes to allow options to be treated as investments rather than assets, saw a total of 353 contracts compared with Monday's 243.

London Securities topped the list with 86 contracts, with 7 close behind with 80. Shell traded 72. A quiet day was reported in traditional options, although a put was announced in Davy International. Calls were produced in James Neil, Camport Hotels, Carsons International, Uthra and House of Fraser.

## Viking Oil shares suspended again

Shares of Viking Oil were suspended yesterday amid rumours of another bid from one of its already long list of suitors.

However, Mr Kurt Van-Van-dran, of Pennsylvania-based Sun Co Inc, admitted that his company was still conducting negotiations with Viking but until Viking made a statement Sun would be unable to comment. He was also unaware of any talks being conducted with either of Sun's two main competitors, Hunt International Petroleum and Deminor of West Germany.

A spokesman for Viking Oil refused to comment on the issue but said that the shares, quoted under rule 163(3), were likely to remain suspended until late this afternoon or Thursday morning, at which point a statement would be issued.

The shares were suspended at 1090p, a rise of 10p on the day, which compares with 740p

before the original agreed bid of £3 a share plus royalty payments from Deminor.

Yesterday speculation was rife over the suspension, the second this month, with some predicting a bid price of £12 cash a share. However, none was prepared to say who was making the bid.

The attraction of Viking lies in its stakes in the Brak and Lifford fields, which have already registered finds. Others are still in prospect. This has led some broker to estimate the group's assets at between 400p and £23 a share.

The first bid for Viking by Deminor in February was quickly followed by another from the Sun Co. This was valued at £4 a share plus an unspecified royalty payment.

Three days later Hunt International Petroleum entered as the third bidder with £4.50p a share and a royalty payment that valued Viking at £10.8m.

## Profits jump of 47pc at Stag Furniture

By Peter Wilson-Smith  
A full year's contribution from Meredew Furniture helped to push profits of Stag Furniture up by 47 per cent to £3.35m in the year to December 28. The final dividend has been increased by 55 per cent to give a total of 14.3p gross-up by half.

The shares closed higher on the news at 92p for a two-day rise of 10p. Stag is also planning to capitalize some of its abundant reserves by issuing five ordinary shares and two 10 per cent cumulative preference shares for every five ordinary shares.

Apart from the contribution from Meredew, which was acquired in November 1978 and which trades at the top end of the furniture market, Stag's other main operating companies have also turned in higher profits. These include Stag Cabinets and Awdon at the downmarket end.

The group finished the year with a strong balance showing cash in the bank of £1.66m compared with only £33,000 at end-1978. Assets per ordinary share were 230p.

The strong cash position will stand Stag in good stead in 1980, which promises to be a much more difficult year. Reduced consumer spending has led to much tougher competition in the furniture market and there is no sign of this easing in the short-term.

After rising by 42 per cent to £29.5m in 1979, sales in the first two months of the current year are only 13 per cent higher. But overall the group is maintaining volume with the expensive furniture holding up well.

The shares yield 7.4 per cent at the p/e ratio on a nominal full year charge of 4.9. On the actual 17 per cent tax charge this falls to only 2.4.

## Bemrose results tumble

Bemrose Corporation, the Derby-based printing, packaging and publishing group more than halved profits last year. The dividend is raised 4 per cent.

In the year to the end of December, profits fell from £2.4m to £1.1m on a turnover of £46.4m. After charging £525,000 for re-

organizing the carton and cylinder engraving business, the group had to dip into reserves to the tune of £136,000 to pay a final gross dividend of 3.1p, giving a total of 6.37p, against 6.10p last time.

High interest rates, the strong pound and disappearing performance by the book production and publishing divisions, and the earnings fall.

## Earnings halved Spirax

By One Financial  
Fluid control Spirax-Sarco has increased profits by one million up to £1m in 1979.

Profits rose to £6.6m, though retained profits show a fall from £3m to £1.5m.

This was due to extraordinary items of £91,000, against time. The figure of an £800,000 cost of reorganizing operations and a sale of finished goods.

This totals £1.5m deduction leaves £91,000. In addition, a line figure was a tax charge in the down up from £1 and overseas in £906,900.

Mr Anthony chairman says that current price of shares is ahead of what there will be as long as trading does not further. The how price of shares is ahead of what there will be as long as trading does not further.

## Denki looks to Europe

Denki Kagaku (Denka), a Japanese chemical company, says it will issue £5.7m worth of debentures in the UK to raise funds for investment.

Officials of the largest Japanese prene rubber, is dollar-denominated will be issued in London made available.

The flotation is by a syndicate including the N Company (Euro Schroder, Wagg, Barmes, de Pail, Bes and Amster Bank NV.

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Bambury Stores (F)	25.2(17.2)	4.07(2.79)	13.8(9.64)	1.15(0.63)	2/6	2.0(1.11)
Beradin Rubber (F)	0.3(0.34)	0.32(0.34)	6.0(5.0)	2.0(1.7)	18/4	3.8(3.0)
Brent Chems (F)	28.6(22.0)	3.4(2.7)	15.6(12.5)	3.5(2.4)	—	5.0(3.19)
Castlefield Rubber (I)	—	4.38(0.386)	—	—	—	—
Equity & Law (F)	—	—	10.4(8.6)	7.0(—)	1/7	11.0(7.7)
Garson Eng. (F)	12.3(11.8)	0.86(0.29)	22.54(26.05)	3.5(3.5)	1/7	6.6(6.5)
Lasso (F)	63.39(4.38)	23.44(10.73)	12.72(15.18)	11(10)	—	—
Reckitt & Colman (F)	659(607)	51.0(61.3)	22.6(27.8)	5.0(3.33)	2/7	8.5(5.9)
Ricardo Eng (I)	3.952(3.432)	0.53(0.51)	19.2(18.0)	3.0(2.75)	18/4	—
W. Stoclar (I)	12.7(10.3)	0.53(0.32)	—	1.5(—)	4/4	—
Stag Furniture (F)	29.5(20.7)	3.35(2.2)	69.6(47.1)	6.8(4.2)	—	10.0(6.5)
Un Newspapers (F)	69.8(57.4)	8.19(6.88)	—	15.0(9.2)	11/6	24.0(15.6)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. \* = loss + = including results from oil exploration.

## Reckitt &amp; Colman 1979

## Unaudited Preliminary Results

Sales	£659.08m
Profit before tax	£51.01m
Earnings per share	22.55 p

Comments on Results. In common with most international manufacturing companies, Reckitt & Colman has experienced a difficult trading year and has had problems particular to itself. These problems are being dealt with in a vigorous manner.

It is encouraging that, with the exception of North America and Brazil and of exports from the U.K., the group's performance around the world has generally been of a high order and is not adequately reflected by the figures as they appear in sterling, due to the strength of that currency.

During 1979, the group spent £47.8m on capital projects and acquisitions, designed to preserve and further develop the geographical and product spread of Reckitt & Colman.

The U.K. trading divisions were hit by the transport drivers' strike at the beginning of the year but recovered and made excellent progress in the second half of the year.

In Europe, while sales increased satisfactorily, profit before tax was similar to that of 1978.

The really significant drop in profit was in North America but in the second half of 1979, improvement occurred there. Trading difficulties have, however, continued in certain activities in North America and it has been decided to close some of these. Provision has been made in extraordinary items in the 1979 accounts for the related closure costs.

Trading for Reckitt & Colman Australia began slowly in the first half-year, but gained momentum as the year progressed, ending up on a strong note. In local currency terms, sales increased by 14.2%, pre-tax profit by 13.0% and earnings by 16.3%.

Against a fairly depressed economic background, Reckitt & Colman in New Zealand again performed very strongly.

In Latin America the Brazilian companies were adversely affected by strong inflation. In Argentina the company substantially increased its sales and preserved profit margins. Trading in Venezuela was difficult while in Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru the businesses performed well.

In most parts of Africa trading proved difficult due to continued restrictions on imports and the strength of sterling coupled with the weakness of local currencies. Despite these problems, the business in South Africa made satisfactory progress.

	1979	1978
£ million	£ million	£ million
Sales to customers	659.08	606.64
Trading profit	59.54	66.07
Interest payable less other income	8.53	4.77
Profit before tax	51.01	61.30
Tax on profit (Note 1)	19.78	23.46
Profit after tax	31.23	37.84
Attributable to minority interests	3.36	3.56
Preference dividends	27.87	34.28
	0.16	0.16
Earnings attributable to ordinary shareholders	27.71	34.12
Exchange differences	7.14	4.08
	20.57	30.04
Extraordinary items (Note 2)	5.22	1.70
Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders	15.35	28.34
Ordinary dividends	10.49	7.26
Added to reserves	4.86	21.08
Earnings per share (Note 3)	22.55p	27.84p

Note 1: Tax, including deferred tax only in respect of liabilities which are expected to arise in the foreseeable future consists of:—  
UK advance corporation tax 4.56 3.66  
Other UK taxes, less relief for overseas tax 0.51 1.11  
Overseas tax 14.71 18.69  
19.78 23.46

Note 2: Extraordinary items in 1979 consist of provisions for losses on closure of sites and businesses, less related tax relief of £3.09m.

Note 3: Earnings per share are based upon the average shares in issue during 1978 and 1979 and on earnings attributable to ordinary shareholders as stated above.

Ordinary Dividends. A final dividend of 5p per share (1978 - 3.326 p) is recommended to be paid on 2nd July 1980. With the interim paid in January 1980 this would make a total of 8.5p (1978 - 5.926p).

Annual Report. Copies of the annual report will be posted to shareholders on 29th April 1980.

The Annual General Meeting. This will be held on Thursday 22nd May at 10.15 a.m. for 11 a.m. at The Connaught Rooms, 15 Great Queen Street, London WC2.

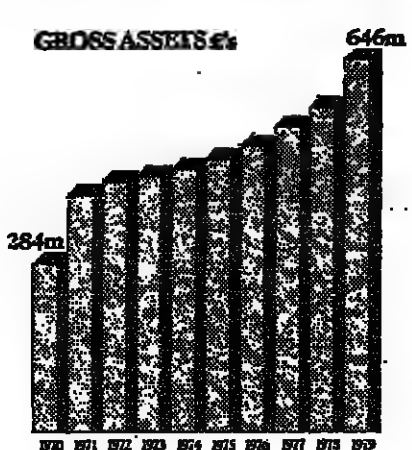
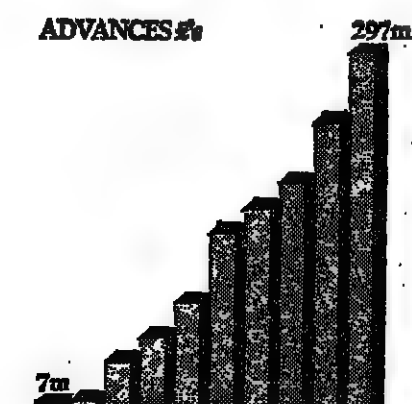
A presentation will be made at the meeting of the company's Latin American business.

## Reckitt &amp; Colman

P.O. Box 26, Burlington Lane, London W4 2RW

Principal product groups: food and wine, household and toiletry, pharmaceutical, industrial, leisure.

## Ten years of growth in merchant banking



J.M.E. Padovan, Chief Executive



J.A.S.L. Leighton-Boyce, Chairman



C.N. Villiers, Deputy Chief Executive

## Highlights for 1979

- \* Further profits advance to £7.2 million.
- \* Record corporate advisory activity—in issues, mergers and acquisitions.
- \* Currency and sterling advances up 18% to £297 million.
- \* Responsibility for investment funds of over £1.4 billion.
- \* Management and co-management of 13 eurobond issues with a value of over \$750 million equivalent.
- \* Representative office opened in New York.

"We can be confident that the strength of the Bank, which has been steadily developed in the past ten years, will enable us to take full advantage of our consistently expanding connections in commerce and industry, both in the United Kingdom and overseas."

John Leighton-Boyce, Chairman

## COUNTY BANK

County Bank Limited, 11 Old Broad Street, London EC2N 1BB and in Birmingham, Edinburgh, Leeds, Manchester, Dubai and New York.

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## ANCIAL NEWS

## Members ahead after high second half

Wilson-Smith, a much tougher half, ladies clothes and manufacturer. Stores raised pre-tax profit by 47 per cent to £4.07m in February 2. After a £751,000 profit in 1978-79, the company was a more modest 29

of the group's 47 per cent increase in turnover to £10.1m, which reflects higher volume. It is a budget operation with a unique integration of retail and manufacturing. The company has enabled it to hold steady. However, the new stores opened during the year have contributed to higher sales. The rise in volume sales at 10 per cent. This all in the first half. The half coincided with a high period for most in the rag trade as the rise in VAT was almost certainly

## Session blamed for return at Garton

Neil Priest, a manufacturer of fastenings, saw profits fall last year to £990,000. Aubrey Garton, the company's managing director, blames inflation, exchange rates, interest charges and the on in British industry lower results. Engineering and transport had less impact than had been expected. During the engineering dispute was less than during the transport. But it now seems, on the whole, that the steel could be more serious of the effect on the. So far this year look

promising, however. The company hopes it can raise turnover by more than last year when it went up by about £1m to £12.9m. In real terms this is a fall of around 4 per cent, and it points to margins being heavily squeezed. The pressure on margins was aggravated by competition from imports, especially in the mass market for bolts, the traditional core of Garton's business which still accounts for about 40 per cent of turnover. Another factor was that disruptions to customers' business effectively caused a delay in Garton's price increases. A final dividend of 5p gross brings the year's full payout to shareholders to 9.5p gross, the same as last year.

## Merim rise of 10pc at Ricardo

Based Ricardo, an engineering firm, is still pushing profits higher, after topped the £1m mark for the first time in 1978-79. Six months later, Ricardo's profits rose by 10 per cent to £551,000 before charge, compared with £500,000 last year. Revenue rose by 15 per cent to £3.2m. Shareholders benefit from a 3.2p to 4.2p gross. Downs, the chairman, says that the parent, which is experiencing a demand from its worldwide. But Cousins' of business has been "disappointing", as in this subsidiary must be for the half-year. But as been taken and this, with the continued of the parent, gives a good reason for the.

for-one scrip  
radin Rbr  
ing higher profits and is, Beradin Rubber is proposing a four-for-one scrip issue. The company's turnover rose from £282,000, pre-tax increased from £341,000 to £500,000 in the year to 30. Profits are after an additional profit of £30,000, with all for 1977-78. Earnings per share rose from 6.02p to 6.02p, the total d. gross, is being raised 38p to 5.42p.

half-time loss  
n Sinclair Hldgs  
ugh the turnover of Sinclair Holdings rose 10.37m to £12.75m in the year to December, the company expanded to £538,000, with a loss of 0.1 last time, after a nil (same); last year's was also after charging extraordinary. The figures include profits of Dickinson, Brown for the first time. The

## The Ashdown Investment Trust Limited

Managed by J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited

The Annual General Meeting was held at 120 Cheapside, London EC2 on Tuesday, 25 March, 1980 at 3.00 p.m.

The following is a summary of the Report by the Directors for the year ended 30 November, 1979.

	1979	1978	% Change
Total Revenue	£1,312,973	£994,806	+32.0%
Revenue after taxation and expenses	£ 736,222	£471,218	+56.2%
Earnings per Ordinary Share (see below)	6.95p	4.78p	+45.4%
Ordinary dividends for the year net per share	6.60p	4.60p	+43.5%
Net asset value per 25p Ordinary Share	177p	185.2p	-4.0%

The earnings per ordinary share reflect non-recurring income from the Company's holdings in Shell Transport & Trading Limited and Unilever Limited as a result of the removal of dividend restraint, amounting to £12,049 net. As the Directors considered that the benefit of this income should be passed on directly to the shareholders at the earliest opportunity, a special interim dividend of 1.00p per share has been declared on the Ordinary Capital, absorbing £104,680, and is included in the dividends per share above.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretaries.  
J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Limited, 48 St. Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4EL

## International

## Sohio net income up by 163 pc

From Frank Vogl  
Washington, March 25

Standard Oil of Ohio (Sohio), whose majority shareholder is BP, stressed today that its key long-term financial objectives are a strong credit rating of at least "double A" a minimum return on borrowed and invested capital that exceeds expected inflation rates by a reasonable amount of at least 6 to 8 per cent and a dividend payment of 35 to 40 per cent of income.

The company noted in its annual report that in the 1970s its assets grew sixfold to \$9,209m. Its ownership stake in the Prudhoe Bay field in Alaska gives it greater crude oil reserves than any other company in the United States.

Sohio expects Prudhoe Bay production, now at 1.5m barrels a day, to be sustained at this high level for about six years. In 1979 Sohio increased its revenues by 52 per cent to \$7,916m, its net income rose by 163 per cent to \$1,186.1m, its long-term debt fell by 17 per cent to \$3,086.4m and its cash dividends per common stock rose 47 per cent to \$1.22.

Phillips Petroleum expects higher earnings in 1980 despite a probable decline in profits from its petroleum products group, according to its annual report. Phillips had earnings in 1979 of \$819m (£372m), or \$5.77 a share, up from \$718.1m, or \$4.66 a share, in 1978, while earnings of its petroleum products group rose to \$206m from \$149m.

Phillips said it expects lower petroleum products group earnings because crude oil costs are expected to rise faster than prices for refined oil.

## Bridon sells stake in Haggie

Bridon, the British cable and wire maker, has sold its 38.8 per cent stake in the South African associate company Haggie for £57m (£31.7m). The purchasers are Scaw Metals, a wholly owned subsidiary of the giant Anglo American Corporation, and Union Corporation.

In 1978 Bridon made pre-tax profits of £17.3m, but in the first half of the last financial year lost £1.52m. The company

says that it is selling the Haggie stake because the return on investment has been small and more profitable use can be made of the funds elsewhere. The dividend from Haggie in 1979 was £1.36m. Haggie is a major supplier of steel cables to the South African mining industry. Last year it made profits of £28m on assets of £70.1m. In recent years Haggie has also moved

into export markets, particularly in other parts of Africa and in Latin America. The move can also be seen as another step in the strengthening by South African interests of their hold over domestic industry. It is significant that the stake is to be divided between Anglo American, often regarded as representing English language business in the republic, and Union Corporation, which after its recent incorporation into General Mining could be considered part of the Afrikaner camp.

## Bid for Australian Finance

Associates Corporation of North America says it will make a joint \$11.5m (about £5m) takeover offer with the Melbourne-based insurance group, T and G Mutual Life Society, for a finance company, Australian Finance and Securities.

The offer is conditional on approval from the Government's foreign investment review board and upon receipt

of 90 per cent acceptance by shareholders. The joint offer is of \$120 cash for each of the eight million fully paid 50 cent shares cum dividend in AFS and 95 cents for each of the 10 million partly paid 50 cent shares.

Associates Corporation noted that the AFS board has said it will recommend the offer be accepted.

## CP to acquire food group

Canadian Pacific Investments, of Montreal, and Norin Corporation, of Miami, Florida, has announced that it has reached an agreement in principle under which Canadian Pacific and its wholly-owned United States subsidiary, Canellus, of Syracuse, will acquire through a cash merger all of the outstanding common shares of Norin at a price of \$32 a share.

The aggregate price of the Norin common shares is about

\$76m (about £34m). The agreement is subject to any necessary governmental approvals, a formal agreement, and the approval of Norin's shareholders. A shareholders' meeting expected to be held by early summer.

Norin is a diversified food company engaged in the manufacture, processing and distribution of a variety of food and agricultural products in North America and the Caribbean.

## Phillips expects higher earnings

1980 after a 5 per cent decline in 1979.

United States crude production was down by 3 per cent to 121,400 barrels daily in 1979, a level the company expects to hold about even in 1980.

The price of oil from the Norwegian area of the North Sea rose to an average of \$21.69 a barrel from \$13.94 in 1978, Phillips said, while prices received for Nigerian oil reached \$22.30 from \$14.11 a barrel a year earlier.

United States natural gas revenues rose by 43 per cent last year and gas production reached 22.30 from \$14.11 a barrel a year earlier.

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The growth seen in the chemicals business in 1979 is not expected to continue into 1980, partly because United States economic activity is expected to slow. Profits rose to \$185m in 1979 from \$60m in 1978.

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## -Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-

### Margery Hurst Centre

#### Secretary-Mining Engineers, EC4.

£5,000 neg.

An opportunity to work at executive level on a wide range of duties including office administration and arranging hotel and air bookings. Good secretarial skills required. Four weeks' holiday plus other attractive benefits.

#### Senior Secretary, EC4. £5,900

An interesting job working for the Director of Personnel Services. Experience at executive level is essential, coupled with the ability to work on own initiative. Benefits include 4 weeks' holiday, season ticket loan scheme, LV 5 and a contributory pension scheme.

#### Executive Secretary-International Banking Company, EC4. £6,000

A good organizer with a strong personality and good secretarial skills is called for in this position. Working for Managing Director with a wide range of responsibilities. 4 weeks' holiday. LV's, subsidised mortgage facilities, free BUPA.

#### Secretary/PA-Sterling Brokers, EC4. £5,500

Responsible position working for the Marketing Director. A full range of secretarial skills including some audio typing is called for. A good telephone manner together with initiative and confidence is essential. 4 weeks' holiday and 10% bonus scheme.

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#### JAYGAR SELECTION

##### WEST END £6,500+

Opportunity with variety and interest for flexible intelligent self-motivated PA/Sec.

##### KENSINGTON c. £6,000

Senior Sec. with good admin. and pos. Medical exp. for a stimulating post.

##### CHARING CROSS £5,900+

Manager of Int. Co needs a real PA with good Sec. skills for very responsible position.

##### BRENTFORD to £5,500

Experience in oil business plus good Sec. skills and initiative for absorbing post.

Temporary Secretaries also required open tonight until 6.30 p.m.

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JAYGAR

### PA/SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR

The Director of Marketing, Information and Public Relations for the Sea Containers Group, market leaders in international container, crane and container ship leasing and with expanding interests in hotel and leisure activities, is looking for a mature PA/Secretary, aged 35+.

In addition to normal secretarial duties, the successful candidate will assist the Director in the day to day administration of the office as well as providing a link with a wide range of internal and external contacts.

The company offers a salary of circa £5500 p.a. plus excellent benefits including 70p. per day Lunchbox Vouchers.

Applicants who have had previous experience of PA/marketing in a senior secretarial capacity should write, enclosing a full curriculum vitae, to Miss R. H. Saunders, Deputy Personnel Officer, Sea Containers Services Limited, 1 Hanover Square, London W.1.

sea containers

### BI-LINGUAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

French/English

required to work for the Managing Director

You should have excellent shorthand/typing skills, be well educated and have several years' experience at senior level, hotel experience useful but not essential. Excellent salary, benefits and working environment.

The Dorchester

Please telephone

01-629 8888, Ext. 4149

American container leasing company, for their London office require an experienced, mature, male or female

#### SENIOR ASSISTANT

Fluency (or near) in English, Italian, French, German and a Scandinavian language essential due to the international nature of container business. Excellent typing, audio, telex and computer trained booking skills required as well as proven administration experience in a busy international office. Some knowledge and experience of American company working methods would be advantageous. Salary offered about £6,000 per annum. Tel: 01-492 1881. (ref. JSA).

#### £6,000 (City)

Demanding busy position as Sec./P.A. to Personnel Director, International Bank. Shorthand 100/70. 2 1/2 months' salary. Age 27+.

#### £6,000 (City)

Board Director dealing with mergers and acquisitions in well-known City bank seeks capable, mature Secretary. Shorthand 100/60. Exc. benefits include mortgage subsidy. Age 37+.

Dulcie Simpson

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Confidential Recruitment Consultants

Chelsea or Kensington  
Secretary required for professional and progressive firm of estate agents. Good personality and ability to join happy and hard working team essential. Excellent conditions and remuneration. Apply Ronald Hebbeler, Friend and Faickel, 294 New Kings Road, SW6, 01-731 3431.

#### SECRETARY/PA

##### ADVERTISING

The dynamic chief Executive of the new National Newspaper Advertising Bureau (starts 1st April) representing Britain's largest advertising medium, needs an equally dynamic Secretary/PA to assist him in the organisation and running of a £500m media Bureau. Salary package negotiable, but anyone earning less than £5,000 per annum is unlikely to have the poise and experience needed to meet this challenge. For further details, please ring

01-405 0090

(12 minutes short hand)

#### SUPERVISOR

Wanted for WORD PROCESSING on newly installed Mun computer in pleasant offices in Victoria Station by professional partnership. Good benefits. Apply Mrs Clarke on 730 6101.

### Secretary to Company Secretary

The Company Secretary of a major public property investment company requires an experienced, well-educated and reliable Secretary to work in luxury offices near Holborn Circus. The post is varied and interesting, including some administrative duties, and you would have your own office with an IBM Executive typewriter. The ability to deal with people at all levels is important.

We provide excellent benefits, including nearly five weeks' annual holiday, LV's, season ticket loan, BUPA and non-contributory Pension Scheme.

Salary in the region of £5,500 p.a. with twice-yearly salary reviews. For further details, please ring Carol Watt on 01-831 6331.

Brixton Estate

### PERSONAL ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

Dynamic Personal Assistant/Secretary required for Deputy Managing Director of fast expanding Camberley based Company. The successful applicant will be required to follow through projects on her own initiative to an extremely high standard and have all the attributes of a first class personal assistant. Salary negotiable, starting around £6,000 p.a. depending on personal abilities, attributes and presentation. Please write in the first instance to Mrs C. Tolley P.O. Box 51, Camberley, Surrey.

### SECRETARY FOR CHAIRMAN

required with good education and secretarial skills. The successful applicant will have broad experience and will be required to work from the chairman's private residence in S.W.7. Please write with details of education and experience to Box 0774 F, The Times.

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

### NATIONAL COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE REQUIRE PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO ADMINISTRATOR

Of this major national charity concerned with the work of voluntary organisations. Varied and interesting work as part of a small team dealing with financial, legal, personnel and policy matters. Good secretarial skills essential. Salary up to £1,775 plus £780 London Weighting per annum. Superannuation scheme and subsidised dining room. 5 weeks' annual leave. Further details and application form from the

Personnel Officer  
N.C.S.S.  
36 Bedford Square,  
London WC1B 3BU.  
TELEPHONE 01-636 4066

#### HEADHUNTERS £5,000

Director of leading management consultants in Mayfair seeks a smart, well educated secretary 23+. Although first class shorthand and typing skills are required, the ability to co-ordinate highly confidential information obtained at top executive level is important.

#### YOUNG P.A. SECRETARY £5,500

Charming Young Lady of well known international co. in W.1. seeks a young and lively P.A. secretary 22+, who would enjoy total involvement in multi-national affairs.

#### ADVERTISING P.A. £5,500 neg

Use your previous advertising experience + good secretarial skills to assist Senior Director responsible for all client liaison and involvement in a very successful agency.

#### BERKELEY APPOINTMENTS

161 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON, W1. TEL 01-408 0444 (Recruitment Consultants)

#### TRI-LINGUAL French, German £7,000

P.A. IN P.R. £6,000 Opportunity to use your P.A. skills and be totally involved.

#### BANKING £6,000

Work at chairman level as social and business P.A.

#### J.F. CONSULTANTS 01-493 6212

#### P.A. £5,500

Secretary in Kensington for M.D. of Audio Visual company. Good typing and shorthand a necessity. Also ability to communicate with clients. Phone 01-937 5028.

#### ARCHITECTS W.1

Require bright and efficient Secretary with shorthand to organise small friendly office and deal with telephone and reception. Worthwhile salary. Tel. 01-387 8277

#### EXPERIENCED MEDICAL SECRETARY

required for busy private medical practice for 3 consultants in central London hospital. Appropriate salary negotiable. 01-388 3834

British Gas are seeking to appoint the following experienced personnel for their Secretarial Departments in London.

### SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT

Marble Arch up to £6,887

To assist in the organisation and administration of the industry's most senior committees, the work involves regular contact with senior staff Directors and their secretaries. A high level of efficiency and accuracy is required and the work is highly confidential.

You should have a good general education with 'O' levels including English and have completed a recognised course in shorthand and typing. The experience required is at least 3 years in a responsible secretarial post, and some experience of committee administration would be an advantage. Salary within the range £5,996-£6,887 inclusive of £751 Inner London Weighting. Ref: PER/201201/T. Please write with full details of age, qualifications, experience and current salary quoting the appropriate reference, to the Senior Personnel Officer (London), British Gas, 38 Bryanston Street, London W1A 2AZ. Closing date for applications 9 April, 1980.

Both vacancies, open to men and women, offer all the benefits normally associated with a large progressive organisation.

### COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Holborn up to £8,143

To take responsibility for the Secretaryship of a group of national Committees and associated Working Parties, serving British Gas Finance Division. This will involve preparation of agendas, reports, briefing notes, minutes and administrative arrangements for meetings. The position demands the ability to analyse and marshal facts, prepare accurate reports and minutes and to maintain good personal working relationships at all levels.

We are seeking applicants with a degree or equivalent qualification who can offer some sound experience in a similar field. Salary is in the range of £7,179-£8,143, inclusive of £751 Inner London Weighting. Ref: CH/200701/T.

### BRITISH GAS

#### Margery Hurst Centre

Career Consultants  
47 Davies Street, W.1.  
01-629 8812

#### Office/Showroom Manager

£5,500 neg. W.1.  
A famous French manufacturing company requires a person, completely bilingual in French, to run its large London showroom. Absolute integrity and a good commercial sense of paramount importance. Good benefits given.

#### Senior Secretary/P.A.

£6,000, W.1.  
The Marketing Director of an international chemical company requires more a PA than a secretary, although excellent shorthand a necessity. The position demands a position with plenty of scope for initiative. Excellent benefits given.

### TOO BUSY TO LOOK FOR A BETTER JOB?

We know that it's just not possible for many senior secretaries to come in to see us during the working day but tomorrow, Thursday 27th March, we're staying open until 7 in the evening. Either ring us about our wide range of satisfying jobs in London or look in on your way home tomorrow for a drink and a chat about the opportunities, fringe benefits and promotion prospects.

#### SENIOR SECRETARIES

Recruitment Consultants.  
175 New Bond Street, W.1.  
01-498 0092 01-483 5907

### NEW HORIZONS

There is room at the top for intelligent, well groomed and capable secretaries. 25+, used to working at executive level.

W.1. P.A./Secretary to chairman, Entertainment Ind. £5,350  
S.W.1. P.A./Sec. to dir of admin National Federation, £5,000  
W.C.1. P.A./Sec. to managing director, Telecommunications, £5,500  
S.W.3. Private secretary to president, Agricultural Group, £6,000  
W.1. P.A./Secretary to director, Marketing and P.R., £6,500

We also have many other interesting and well paid posts.

### HARLEY STREET

Secretary required for Consultant based in Harley Street.

Applicants must have good shorthand (at least 100 wpm) and excellent secretarial skills, medical experience an advantage. 5 days per week. 4 weeks' holiday. Age 23+. Salary £5,000 negotiable. Tel:

#### Dr Beauchamp

935 9963 or 935 3088

#### AUDIO SECRETARY

£5,400

This International Accountancy Practice offers a varied and interesting position as Secretary to an Audit Division Partner. Frequent office attractive fringe benefits.

Blue Arrow Staff Service,  
50 Bedford Street,  
London, WC2  
01-373 7644

#### circa £6,000

Experienced Accounts, Audio and Shorthand Secretary with diverse interests. Young firm of Chartered Accountants near Selfridges. Salary circa £5,000 plus clothes allowance.

Telephone Cheryl Penn

486 8984

### REDUNDANCY—WHAT WAS THAT?

£5,000  
Have no fears working for this well established international company who are looking for high calibre people to expand their operations. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in business studies or a similar qualification. Salary £5,000. Please ring 483 1875.

#### FLEXI/PART-TIME SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

required for industrialised Chartered accountancy firm. Applicant must possess full secretarial skills, a basic knowledge of bookkeeping and be prepared to become involved in running the private office in the City. Salary £5,000 p.a. plus 10% bonus. Please ring 483 1875.

### TELEPHONE SALES TRAINER

c. £8,500+

(NEGOTIABLE PACKAGE)

The Classified Advertising Department of the London Evening News represents innovative leadership in Classified Development. In the last 13 months we have launched 2 'World Firsts'.

As a result of internal promotion (really) we are urgently looking for a young, aggressive and bright Sales Trainer, who wants to move faster than their environment currently allows.

Find out more and make a sales pitch to Chris King, Executive Sales Manager, Evening News Classified, at

(01)

353 4428

### £5,500-£6,000 P.A./ADMIN. -CITY

Two of our clients have asked us to recruit experienced Personal Secretaries for Senior Directors.

Both appointments offer opportunities to contribute to company activities at a very high level. Although good secretarial skills are necessary, the ability to take responsibility and to deputise frequently is just as valuable.

To discuss details and other benefits, please call

01-730 8525

RELANCE

EXECUTIVE CONSULTANTS

### FRENCH BI-LINGUAL SECRETARY

£6,000

Applicants need to have French mother tongue and able to take shorthand in English and French. Will be working for a Manager of a leading International Press Agency. Very involved position that needs someone who can work on their own initiative. Excellent working conditions and 5 weeks holidays.

For an appointment phone

Chris Peterson 353 3232

### ALFRED MARKS

A BETTER WAY TO WORK

#### THE STANDING CONFERENCE OF SCHOOLS' SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1 Brixton Way, SW.1.

#### Administrative Secretary

£5,000 p.a. Neg.

Applications are invited from secretaries with administrative experience for the above post in this national Educational organisation. The successful candidate will provide a confidential service to the Secretary of the Society, and will work closely with him in its day to day administration, organising conferences and publications, and arranging and taking minutes of meetings.

Applicants should be mature (25-35), efficient and well-educated and possess secretarial and organising skills of a good standard.

Please apply by writing with CV to The Secretary. For further details please ring Miss McDermott on 222 7899.

### MANAGING DIRECTOR OF LEADING W1 PUBLISHING CO.

Requires experienced P.A./Secretary who will also be responsible for all matters relating to personnel. Publishing experience preferred but not essential. Salary negotiable. Please contact

Vastiana Belfort, 01-434 1694, extn. 45.

### SECRETARY

Commercial partner in young and expanding firm of solicitors in London. Excellent conditions. In Field offices, seeks mature, hardworking personal secretary, wanting a permanent position with responsibility, variety and job satisfaction. Generous salary offered to the right person.

Please ring 01-242 3389 (ref RC)

### SECRETARY/PA

Required, well spoken mid-aged Secretary, some knowledge accounts for very interesting work. Sloane Street. Salary £5,000. Previous Secretary stayed 30 years.

Tel. 235 1453

### Elizabeth Hunt

PA TO THE PRESIDENT

Secretary and candidate PA/Secretary for Knightbridge party. Social confidence to deal with VIPs essential.

#### ADMIN. ASSISTANT

City company seeks a Personal Administrative Assistant. Duties include the organisation of conferences and attending management conferences. Rusty shorthand not a disadvantage.

#### W1 ESTATE AGENTS

Personal Assistant/Secretary to the senior partner. The role is the organisation of day to day work.

#### CHARING CROSS

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#### PUBLISHER'S ASSISTANT/SECRETARY



## PERSONAL CHOICE



Bogarde who is interviewed about his comparatively arrier as a writer in today's edition of *After Noon Plus* (2.00)

marriage has been arranged for today's BBC TV coverage Budget (BBC 1, 3.00). It is between two computers—the very own Rover and a much respected machine owned by City stockbrokers. The fruit of the union, of its a temporary one, will be that within seconds of the film's revelations, we can see what impact they are likely to have on the nation's economy. At the human level, the BBC has its Matchless Duo, David Dimbleby and Robin Day, who (Radio 4, 3.25) fields the Threepenny Trio, Gordon Clough, Williams and Joan Bakewell from PM, and Radio 2 sweetens the bitter pill with musical and sporting news Independent Television's coverage of the Budget can be overseen by Alastair Burnet, with Peter Sissons, an of the News at One, presiding at the (single) tea.

ple all over the country have soon had their enthusiasm at a council house dampened—literally. Wet walls, rotting, and all because so-called experts overlooked some simple physics when drawing up their designs. Tonight's Open (BBC 1, 9.35) investigates this scandalous state of affairs, and reports, sadly, a spectacular fall from grace in the design of the Thatchers' Bungalow (BBC 2, 9.00). Not a thing is pulled all the stops out, it blows up the organ as it is at the memory of the justifiably horrendous second, and try to forget the third one altogether.

have a second chance tonight (Radio 3, 9.05) to hear Welsh's recital at St John's, Smith Square by the Welsh Margaret Price (Mozart, Schubert, Debussy, and more). If such a thing is possible, she should sound even in this digital recording. Another eminent Welsh, Gwyneth Jones, is featured in a BBC Wales programme (Radio 4). She talks about her life and sings items from her repertoire, with Wagner to the fore. For a musical chuckle—it could be your last one this Budget day—the short Alan Ayckbourn comedy Mother Figure, written by Alan Ayckbourn, is repeated in this evening's Double Act 4, 12.27.

THE SYMBOLS MEAN: \*STEREO; \*BLACK AND WHITE; \*FRAT.

## Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davale

## TELEVISION

## BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: The Baby Steps Kids: 7.05 Work and Retirement: 7.30 A School Approach to Energy: Close down at 7.55.  
9.15 For Schools: Colleges: It's Maths: 9.55 Let's Go (for mentally handicapped): 10.12 Words and Pictures: 11.02 Everyday Maths: 11.40 English in Your Own Words: 12.05 pm Russian Language and People: Lesson Six (7): Close down at 12.30.  
12.45 News and weather: 1.00 Paddy Hill at One: Law of Laila Ahmed's series about Indian culture. BBC Publications have now published her book, *A Taste of India*.  
1.05 Playboard: puppet programme.  
2.01 Schools: Colleges: Watch (caveat): 2.15 The Twentieth Century: History (India): 2.40 Communicate! (mounting a campaign).

## BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: Problem Identification Game: 7.05 Cells and Organisms: 7.30 Brain Structure and Behaviour: Close down at 7.55.  
10.29 Gharbar: For Asian women. Sewing, cooking, a story and some music. Close down at 10.45.  
11.00 Play School: Dorothy Leno's story (repeated at 3.55). Close down at 11.25.  
3.55 pm Play School: See 1.00.  
4.20 The Backyard: Czechoslovakian cartoon. Upsetting the Apple Porter continues reading The Tales of Beatrix Potter: the Tale of the Pie and the Pasty Part 4: 4.40 Take Hart: Tony Hart makes a picture with dye powder, chalk, sand and plaster of Paris: 5.00 Johnnie's News: Newsworld: junior news: 5.05 God's Wonderful Railway: GWR serial. A race against disaster: 5.35 Paddington: he hits the jackpot (1).  
5.40 Open University: Rich Law: Poor Law: 6.05 Systems: Models: 6.30 The Web of Art: 6.55 The Master Game: The eleventh game in this chess series. Vladimir Horowitz (Czechoslovakian) Walter Browne, the winner goes to the final.  
7.25 News: with sub-titles for the hearing.  
7.35 29 Seconds to Zero: The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor: all done with models and special effects.  
8.35 The Silicon Factor: Sink or Swim. Britain is lagging in microelectronics, but some British companies are part of the revolution, including Chubb (cash registers) and Hornby Hobbies (model trains).  
8.55 Acta: A look at two young, promising women playwrights, Victoria Wood (who has written *Victoria Wood* in *Good Fun*, now showing in Sheffield) and Andrea Dunbar, still a teenager, whose play *The Arbour* is at the Royal Court in London (see also Thames, 11.40 pm).  
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3.00 Budget 1980: All the good and bad news. Alastair Burnet is likely to keep the whole after humming interestingly (see Personal Choice).  
5.15 The Brady Bunch: School year.

## THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: The In-radiant (bacteria, viruses): 9.52 My World: 10.10 How We Used to Live (a Victorian wedding): 10.35 French: English children in Bonaparte: 11.04 Drop, Look, Listen (water): 11.16 Finding Out (Edward Lear): 11.36 Document (Asha).  
12.00 Clappa Castle: puppets in medieval story: 12.10 pm Ralston: a story and songs: 12.30 The Sullivan: serial about an Australian family.  
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## Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.  
6.30 News Today.  
7.00, 8.00 News.  
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.  
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.  
9.00 News.  
9.05 Mid-Week.  
9.08 News.  
9.08 News: Question Time.  
10.05 Gardeners' Question Time.  
10.30 Daily Service.  
10.45 Once Upon an Ice Age (8).  
11.00 News.  
11.05 Baker's Dozen.  
11.20 News.  
11.22 pm You and Yours.  
12.27 Plays: Mother Figure; Tutorial.  
12.55 Weather.  
1.00 The World at One.  
1.40 The Archers.  
2.00 News.  
2.02 Woman's Hour.  
2.30 Listen With Mother.  
3.15 The Way the Money Goes.  
3.25 The Budget.  
3.55 Weather.  
4.00 News.  
4.30 My Music.  
4.40 News.  
4.45 The Archers.  
4.55 News.  
4.55 News: Musical Evening with Gwyneth Jones.  
5.45 A Programme for Survival.  
5.45 Kaleidoscope.  
6.00 The World Tonight.  
10.30 The Life and Times of the Orchestra (7).  
11.00 A Book's Bedside.  
11.15 Financial World tonight.  
11.30 Today in Parliament.  
12.00 News.  
12.15 am-12.23 Weather.

VHF  
6.50 am Regional news, weather.  
7.50 Regional news, weather.  
9.05-10.30 Schools: History in Evidence; Advanced Studies: English; Poetry; Current Music; Music; Something to Think About.  
10.45-12.00 Schools: The Music Book; By the People, For the People; Inquiry; Question Time; Drama; Books, Plays, Poems; Nature.  
5.50 Regional news, weather.  
11.00 Study on 4: Get By in Spanish (1).  
11.30-12.10 am Open University: The Voyage of the Challenger: Science—Manchester in the 19th Century.

Wavelengths: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1063KHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909KHz. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215KHz. Radio 4 med wave 225m/1333KHz. Radio 5 med wave 215m/1395KHz. Radio 6 med wave 205m/1463KHz. Radio 7 med wave 195m/1538KHz. Radio 8 med wave 185m/1621KHz. Radio 9 med wave 175m/1714KHz. Radio 10 med wave 165m/1818KHz. Radio 11 med wave 155m/1930KHz. Radio 12 med wave 145m/2053KHz. Radio 13 med wave 135m/2182KHz. Radio 14 med wave 125m/2324KHz. Radio 15 med wave 115m/2480KHz. Radio 16 med wave 105m/2651KHz. Radio 17 med wave 95m/2830KHz. Radio 18 med wave 85m/3018KHz. Radio 19 med wave 75m/3214KHz. Radio 20 med wave 65m/3428KHz. Radio 21 med wave 55m/3660KHz. Radio 22 med wave 45m/3911KHz. Radio 23 med wave 35m/4182KHz. Radio 24 med wave 25m/4474KHz. Radio 25 med wave 15m/4786KHz. Radio 26 med wave 5m/5018KHz. Radio 27 med wave 15m/5018KHz. Radio 28 med wave 15m/5018KHz. Radio 29 med wave 15m/5018KHz. Radio 30 med wave 15m/5018KHz. Radio 31 med wave 15m/5018KHz. 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